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MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 JANUARY 1983

Khaldah Talks

After the third round of Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. talks in Khaldah, the spokesman for the Lebanese delegation announced in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio that the three sides will continue efforts to reach agreement on the agenda of the negotiations at their next meeting, which will be held in Qiryat Shemona on 6 January. During the talks in Khaldah, the Lebanese delegation reiterated its stand that the question of the Israeli withdrawal should be the first item on the agenda of the negotiations and called for bypassing "peripheral complications" and discussing substantive issues, the radio reported. In a statement broadcast by the radio, the Lebanese Information Ministry reaffirmed that Lebanon rejects Israel's demand for normalization but is willing to broaden the Lebanese-Israeli armistice agreement of 1949. There is no fear of any Israeli refusal to withdraw from Lebanon now that the chairman of the Lebanese delegation, Antoine Fattal, has emphasized that working toward an agenda is not a "prerequisite" and that his delegation will surpass this to work toward the heart of the problem, the statement added.

Earlier, in an interview reported by Beirut radio, Fattal said the Israelis have displayed flexibility on the normalization issue and opined that the Israelis and Lebanese will ultimately reach a mutually acceptable formula. He noted that the Israelis are not insisting on using the world "normalization." However, Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that Israel will not give up its demands on the issue of normalization with Lebanon, even though the term used for normalization is a semantic matter only, IDF radio reported. He also said reports from the talks indicate that Lebanon is showing willingness to meet Israel halfway on the normalization issue, according to Jerusalem radio. Meanwhile, in remarks broadcast by the radio, Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir warned the Lebanese against harboring illusions that Israel will concede its positions in Lebanon without having achieved a settlement that will guarantee a new situation.

In another development, a Lebanese official source denied "rumors" circulated by Israel that bilateral negotiations between Israel and Lebanon are taking place separately and without U.S. involvement, Beirut radio reported.

Lebanese Military, Security Situation

The IDF recently discovered five Katyusha rocket launchers in southern Lebanon aimed at Qiryat Shemona and four more aimed at a major IDF base, Jerusalem radio reported. The launchers were intended for use during the recent talks in Qiryat Shemona or on the 18th anniversary of the start of Fatah's activity, the radio said.

Violent factional clashes continued in the northern city of Tripoli throughout 3 January. Lebanese police sources cited by AFP said 30 people were killed and another 50 were wounded, while Voice of Lebanon and Beirut radios gave somewhat lower casualty figures. Although the Voice of Lebanon said a Syrian military delegation arrived in Tripoli to discuss measures to stop the fighting, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon said the Syrian delegation's arrival was delayed on a "pretext" of bad weather. Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan announced earlier that he had asked the Syrian Government to take action to help end the fighting, Beirut radio reported.

Israeli-PLO Contacts

Israel does not rule out any means to secure the release of Israeli soldiers held captive by the PLO and is adopting measures on this issue which it would normally

reject, Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee in remarks reported by Jerusalem radio. According to the radio, Shamir's remarks indirectly confirm that Israel is holding contacts with the PLO for the release of the captives.

PLO-Syrian Relations

Al-Wazir Speech -- Khalil al-Wazir, PLO deputy military commander, has ridiculed those who claim that there is a rift in PLO-Syrian relations and declared that Fatah is eager to rapidly strengthen relations with Syria on the basis of their many common interests, Radio Monte Carlo reported, citing a speech the PLO official made during an inspection tour of Palestinian positions in Lebanon. Al-Wazir revealed that contacts have recently taken place between Fatah and Syrian officials and that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will visit Damascus in the next few days to participate in further meetings. The PLO official reiterated that armed struggle will remain the Palestinians' major method of fighting for their objectives, but declared that Palestinian fighters stationed in Lebanon would not obstruct Lebanese independence and sovereignty, KUNA reported, citing the same speech.

Special Committee -- A special eight-man committee headed by Palestine National Council Speaker Khalid al-Fahum met recently to outline relations with Arab countries and to adopt "important" decisions, KUNA reported. The committee stressed the PLO's strategic relations with Syria and reiterated the need to bolster relations with that country, KUNA added. A committee member told KUNA that the group will soon hold its second meeting with Syrian officials.

Iran

In remarks made during a meeting in Tehran with Algerian Foreign Affairs Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani declared that Iran is "fully prepared for serious, multifaceted cooperation" to stop Israel from using the Iran-Iraq war to gain concessions from Lebanon, Tehran radio reported. The speaker proposed a joint movement to confront American activities in the Middle East and urged Algeria to reactivate the steadfastness front for this purpose, the radio added. However, since Iraq has no inclination to fight Israel, Iran will "eliminate it" before joining the steadfastness struggle against imperialism, Hashemi-Rafsanjani added.

Although a Kuwaiti minister told KUNA that Algeria is optimistic about Ibrahimi's current attempt to mediate an end to the Gulf war, neither Tehran nor Algiers media have been observed to report on any mediation efforts.

Afghanistan

About 100 Afghan soldiers stationed near the Pakistani border mutinied on 31 December and shot some 30 Afghan officers, AFP reported, citing the account given by a dozen rebel soldiers who have arrived in Pakistan. According to another AFP report, the Afghan consul in New Delhi has disappeared.

'ARAFAT'S REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY SPEECH

LD011714 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Dec 82

[Speech by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, on the 1 January anniversary of the Palestinian Revolution, to all Palestinian fighters and the Arab nation -- date, place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] With their very bodies our struggling and faithful group has faced up to the American-Israeli tyranny. They did so on their own in the midst of chaotic events, plots and intrigues which sought to crush the Revolution and liquidate its very existence. They put up an armed struggle coupled with political revolution.

This struggle has taken place during one of the most critical moments in Arab history and one of the most crucial times in the contemporary history of the area. Some in the Arab world behaved as if their souls and consciences had been paralyzed. Even some minds seemed to have become frozen and were therefore unable to think and act. All this occurred at a time when conflict was raging in the area with full ferocity, barbarism and sanguinity. Yet some in the Arab world behaved as though such things did not concern or affect them. What a catastrophe! Some of them tried to remove themselves from the battle that was raging over the whole political Arab map and its extensions, caring nothing about what consequences the conflict will have. They were satisfied as long as guarantees or agreements were made available to reassure the maintenance of this place or that status quo irrespective of the umbrella they use to cover themselves amid the raging conflict in this fateful stage which affects the very existence of our Arab nation.

They forgot or pretended to forget that the mujahidin, the heroes and free men who, as part of the believing, steadfast and enduring faction of the Lebanese-Palestinian forces, caused the volcano of the revolution to erupt, were Arabs, Muslims and friends. They forgot that even though this volcano began in Beirut it did not subside in this area. A subsequent earthquake has begun to take shape and extend across the political map of the entire area, exposing the falsehood of unity as the stabbed victim remained alone in the field after the attacker had gone.

The U.S. Pentagon has placed in the hands of killers and criminals, in the hands of the head of this criminal gang -- Sharon, the murderer of children and women, and his master the terrorist Begin -- modern weapons of destruction and annihilation in order to use Beirut and Lebanon as a testing ground for these U.S. weapons and with them to produce an enormous volume of destruction, hatred, killing and subversion. However, despite everything, the destructive hell which was let loose only served to increase the conviction and steadfastness of the gallant heroes. Their actions place on record facts which look like fairy tales in this heroic and miraculous battle which towers over all others.

Our steadfast, patient and deployed people, our comrades in the (?cherished) great march, this past year was the year for taking the revolution forward toward the objective [word indistinct]. The enemy of our nation and people thought that he could stop the drive toward this aim by his abominable criminal aggression -- an aggression that had been planned by the U.S. Administration which provided our enemy with all the means of strength and tools for this crime.

It then helped to cover up the enemy's crimes by using all the means and potentials it possessed, starting with its veto in the UN Security Council and extending to agreements which were torn up before the ink could dry on the paper -- and before the blood of our martyrs in Sabra was dry. Last but not least was an increase in the annual financial support approved by the U.S. Congress for this criminal military gang. [Words indistinct] this criminal campaign against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and its extensiveness -- a disgraceful campaign whose cost was paid in full by the U.S. Administration to the mercenaries. To whom? To the criminal mercenaries -- the Israeli army -- in order to place the area under U.S. influence and control. By means of this campaign Israel tried to move from the role of the guard dog to the role of the small silent partner in a slave-trading operation in our area and against our peoples.

It is regretted that the struggle under these circumstances has been a challenge to the free and upright men of our nation, men who provided an incentive for all by their instinctive gesture of giving, being good and sacrificing themselves. At the same time it is with regret that some people in our area took the opportunity to make sacrifices and concessions in a direct or indirect manner believing or imagining that by so doing they might be safe from the wrath of the masters regardless of what was happening in the way of heroic and fierce battles on the battleground. They were not paying attention to such battles or to their consequences. But history will not be merciful to the perpetrators of these acts and the masses will not forget their deeds. They will continue to forge their way forward. In this burning cauldron their bright future and their free will will be molded into invincible determination and inflexible will.

Out of loyalty and gratitude to you, brothers and kinsmen in Lebanon, I tell you this: We will continue to uphold the pledge and course of our struggle. Our revolutionary arms are at your disposal until this abominable Israeli invasion ends and Lebanon regains its stability, security, the unity of its people and its territorial integrity.

Masses of our struggling nation: The great welcome shown by those Arab countries which played host to our brother fighters provides the best proof of the depth and strength of solidarity and of the genuineness of the interaction between these Arab masses in the Arab homeland and the Palestinian Revolution. All this affirms the established fact: The march will continue. The guns will remain raised and the fingers will remain on the triggers. The departure was not [word indistinct] but it is a building of new bases for the revolution and a strong turning point for cohesion with our great Arab masses.

While we fully realize all the dimensions of the struggle in this area, which is a cultural struggle against the American-Zionist beast, we realize too that Beirut was not the last of the Arab battles. But it is the principal heroic Arab battle -- indeed, it was the epitomy of steadfastness and challenge in face of the abominable Zionist-American imperialist tyranny which is trying to grip the whole area with its claws and teeth.

A glittering fact emerged from the heart of the masses: the free men and honorable sons of our Arab nation have embraced each other to pool their enthusiastic efforts for a near revolutionary miracle.

From the surge of Yemen with its three parts -- the southern, the northern, and the Palestinian, to the true fraternity between the Urals and Maghreb mountains, to the feelings of love from the masses of Sudan which pour out and meet with the consciousness, enthusiasm and strong will of the masses in beloved Egypt and its noble people and those of the masses on both banks of the Jordan and on the banks of the Tigris and Euphrates and those of the masses that gather around the tomb of Saladin and Khalid ibn al-Walid, to the human flood of masses in the Tunisian green pastures and those in the Arabian Peninsula -- all these provide the true meaning and realistic embodiment of the volcano that Beirut caused to erupt in the area, creating vibrations that will only stop at the doors of Jerusalem to decorate it with the banners of our nation that will fly high whether the Zionist oppressors and their masters like it or not. This is God's will and it is shown by the conviction in every heart.

The Arab nation does not lack money, weapons, men, capabilities, or strategic or nonstrategic [word indistinct]. It lacks one thing only: the political decision to fight, to fight, to fight. It is a decision which the faction with convictions in their heart to fight cannot lose sight of. [Words indistinct] in this way we can liberate our land.

It must be clearly evident that there can be no solution, peace or stability in this area through the usurpation of the rights of the Arab nation and its principal cause: The cause of the people of Palestine and their rights, including their right to return, self-determination and the establishment of their national independent state with Jerusalem as its capital, under the leadership of the PLO, which has proven its legitimacy by our national war at both Arab and international levels.

The Revolution has succeeded in protecting its military and political decision because it was a decision taken by the strugglers and by the guns that stood fast in Beirut. [Words indistinct] the decision will remain independent whatever the cost to us. [passage indistinct]

Destiny has decreed that the fighters of the Palestinian Revolution will shoulder historic responsibilities for the regeneration of energies, the closing of ranks and the consolidation of Arab efforts in the face of impending dangers -- both internal and external -- and in the face of the fateful challenges forced upon us.

The revolutionaries have taken their historic decision to close ranks, to consolidate efforts and to rebuild the Arab front -- a unified Arab front in face of one common destiny so that our Arab nation will not become a victim of a new Sykes-Picot plot being implemented through agreements in which numerous sides have covertly become embroiled.

Hence, loyalty to Palestine, the principal Arab cause. [Words indistinct] loyalty to Palestine is not a regionalist call but a pan-Arab call of struggle, in this stage of our contemporary Arab history. The revolutionaries and free men will not accept any flouting of this loyalty to Palestine.

Let us have more unity of struggle based on our solid democratic ground. Let us have greater revolutionary cohesion with our hands firmly and with conviction gripping our guns. Let us have further consolidation of struggling ranks on all fronts of struggle.

While reacting to all these facts, our people have the right to address itself to the world conscience, to the free and honorable men in the world as a whole, to all its friends and allies and even to all the Jews inside and outside Israel and in America and in Europe, both East and West.

Our people have the right to ask: Can there be a just peace in the land of Palestine and in our area through the massacres started at Dayr Yasin by those terrorists members of the fascist military gang in Israel and passing through the various massacres in Lebanon, Beirut, Sabra and Shatila.

Our people have the right to ask: Can there be peace on the corpses of our children and women. Can there be a solution at the expense of our people?

Our people have the right to address their question to all the world's peoples including the peoples of those countries whose governments deny international legitimacy and the most fundamental rights of the Palestinian man to self-determination, which is a sacred right enjoyed by all peoples.

Our people have the right to ask: After all that has happened, can there be any justification for this reluctance to face up to the fact that the Palestinian people are the victims of official organized terrorism and that human, ethical and cultural duty demands from these peoples, parties, bodies, societies and governments to come to the aid of the Palestinian people for in order that they attain their national rights which are recognized internationally and at the United Nations.

This is the appeal which our people make this year to all the world's peoples and to free men and honorable peoples.

We salute all national liberation movements in the world and all friendly countries and peoples which stood and continue to stand by us; the friendly countries in the Nonaligned Movement, the Islamic and African countries, and the friendly socialist countries and other friendly countries.

Our steadfast heroic struggling people, our valiant revolutionaries, dawn is definitely coming. Our independent Palestinian state will come, whatever the difficulties and hardships. They are coming not as a favor or grant from anyone. The road abounds with the sacrifices of the martyrs and the masses. Our country shall be the country of cohesion with all Arabs, and particularly immortal unity with our brave Jordanian people. If you seek conquest, you shall have it.

Brothers and loved ones, this year is the year of victory over the consequences of aggression, now that we have withstood and triumphed over the aggression.

Let us begin our new year with full faith and confidence to make a bright future. Let us proceed with our year, the year of light and fire and blood.

Glory to our blessed martyrs! Glory and greetings to the detainees and prisoners in enemy detention camps and prisons! Blessed be the revolutionary arms, which secure victories and set examples in heroism! Blessed be the struggling masses, of our great Arab nation and people!

It is a revolution until victory!

KUWAITI PAPER INTERVIEWS PLO'S YASIR 'ARAFAT

GF012006 Doha QNA in Arabic 1857 GMT 1 Jan 83

[Text] Kuwait, 1 Jan (QNA) -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat [Abu 'Ammar] has stressed that the PLO military operations have not and will not stop. He indicated that the PLO carried out, during the past 3 months, about 361 military operations in southern Lebanon, killing or wounding about 340 Israeli soldiers and destroying 43 armored military vehicles.

He warned that dropping the military option from the strategy of the PLO is a very serious development that would lead to collapse and submission and that this is out of the question. He indicated that the continuation of political action is necessary too in addition to military operations.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' published today, Mr 'Arafat explained that following its exit from Beirut, the PLO was able to confront the obstacles and problems it faced, particularly the problem of uniting its forces which have resumed their military training, the problem of providing 70 percent of the houses needed for the fighters in the Arab countries they are now in as well as improving their living conditions.

Abu 'Ammar also noted that the various PLO institutions including the commando center, the planning and research center, the Red Crescent and the media section have now been regrouped and are resuming their functions.

He stressed that the exit from Beirut was not a disaster and that the oppression and suffering that took place only served to revive hope in the Palestinians because they continue to possess the means of power, solidarity and coordination with the Arab nation.

Mr Yasir 'Arafat reaffirmed his full readiness to visit Egypt and denied reports saying that he has demands or conditions prior to making his visit to Egypt. He noted Egypt's leading role and the sacrifices of its Arab people in the cause of the Palestinian question which he said has now reached 86,000 martyrs and wounded.

'ARAFAT SETS CONDITIONS FOR WITHDRAWAL

NC041253 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Informed sources have said that PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat has laid down two conditions for withdrawing his military forces from Al-Biqa' and the north of Lebanon. The first is a civil agreement with Lebanon that would amount to a guarantee for the Palestinian civilians -- the most important article in it would be that no Palestinian civilian shall submit ['adam khudu'] to the public security or the Lebanese army. The second condition would be that Lebanon mediate with the United States to secure the release of the Palestinians detained in Al-Ansar camp some months ago. The sources add that these two conditions are considered as a negative stand by 'Arafat.

PLO LEADER URGES MILITARY OPTION AGAINST ISRAEL

LD031200 Kuwait KUNA in English 1016 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Damascus, Jan 3 (KUNA) -- The military option should be given priority by the Arab nation since it is the only means of confronting the Israeli enemy's challenges, a top Palestinian official said Sunday night.

In a speech on the occasion of the 18th anniversary of Fatah commando movement of Palestinian fighters stationed in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' valley, the deputy general commander of the Palestinian Revolution forces Khalil al-Wazir (known as Abu Jihad) affirmed that the Palestinian fighters in the Al-Biqa' and northern Lebanon would not constitute an obstacle to Lebanese independence, sovereignty and unity of lands and people provided that this independence, sovereignty and unity be snatched from Israel, the sole enemy of Lebanon.

The armed struggle will remain the major method of fighting for the Palestinian people until all the objectives of their resolution are achieved under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, their sole legitimate representative, and until our enemies concede our right to return to our homeland, to self-determination and to establish our independent state, Abu Jihad said.

Abu Jihad affirmed that there are some issues on which no Palestinian leader or fighter can give concessions or bargain on, and said that 'our revolution with all its commando groups had determined to continue the political and military struggle'.

The upcoming session of the Palestine National Council (parliament-in-exile) is shouldering great responsibilities in consolidating Palestinian national unity, fostering the determination to fight against the Zionist enemy and achieving further backing and solidarity for the Palestinian rights and at the same time isolating the enemy, Abu Jihad said.

As for the present Arab situation, Abu Jihad said that the Arab states were satisfied with the political option as the sole means to confront the Zionist enemy and neglected the military one.

The Palestinian leader affirmed that the Zionist enemy would not recognize our Arab rights unless the balance of power is changed and military preparation, building up forces and capabilities are given the utmost priority by the Arab nation.

Speaking about Palestinian-Jordanian relations, Abu Jihad said the two peoples are linked by close historic ties, and on that basis "we are striving to foster those relations for the interests of both Arab peoples'.

The Palestinian leader affirmed, however, that 'Palestinian-Jordanian relations and dialogue would not be at the expense of our relations with any other side and are not directed against anyone'.

'We have not given Jordan a mandate, and it is our right to move with Jordan in a way that serves our national cause and basic goals and to coordinate with Jordan in certain fields as with any other Arab country', Abu Jihad said.

He added that 'Jordan is a main gate to our homeland and our people in the occupied territories and it is our right to continue seeking formulas and frameworks for future unionist relations between our independent state and Jordan'.

As for Palestinian-Egyptian relations, Abu Jihad said that during the Israeli seige of West Beirut contacts had been made between Egyptian and Palestinian leaders outside Beirut.

He expressed belief that Egypt had the chance to take a right nationalist stand in backing the Palestinian Revolution during the Lebanon war, but it failed to take the opportunity to declare a historic resolution that would have brought Egypt back to its leading role in the Arab world.

Abu Jihad affirmed that PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat would not visit Cairo at present or in the near future 'unless that visit has political justifications for the Palestinian struggle.

Speaking about relations with Syria, the Palestinian leader said 'there is a difference of views on tactical issues and there are mistaken interpretations for our political moves, resulting from unjustified fears'.

Abu Jihad affirmed that 'we in the Palestinian Revolution are keen that our relations with Syria be based on a joint struggle as Syrian strength is strength for us and its weakness is also a weakness for us and both Syria and the Palestinian Resistance are jointly involved in a long confrontation of the Israeli enemy who is trying to impose its conditions, existence and interests on Lebanon.

Abu Jihad disclosed that Syrian and Palestinian officials are in continuous contact to solve all standing problems. He affirmed, however, that 'we will not surrender our rights which we have struggled and sacrificed greatly for, and our viewpoints and analysis of things are different from those of Syria, and the views of both sides are not necessarily identical, but at the same time, this difference does not mean conflict.

As for the Israeli-Lebanese negotiations, Abu Jihad said we are in principle against dialogue with the Zionist enemy, but we are observing the talks and believe that the enemy, backed by the U.S., would try to blackmail Lebanon for great concessions'.

He warned that any concession given would lead to a series of other concessions that would put Lebanon in a situation worse than that of Egypt under President Anwar as-Sadat when the Camp David accords were signed.

As for the Reagan peace plan on the Middle East accounced last September 1, Abu Jihad said the Palestinian Revolution believes that this plan does not meet the ambitions of our Palestinian people.

Speaking on the exchange of prisoners of war between Israel and the PLO, the Palestinian leader said we had conveyed our conditions to the International Red Cross, which are the release of all detainees of the Ansar camp in south Lebanon in addition to a list of 1000 Palestinian prisoners in occupied Palestine.

PLO LEADER COMMENTS ON ISRAELI-LEBANESE TALKS

JN311737 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 Dec 82

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of Fatah's Central Committee, has affirmed that the Palestinian Revolution has informed Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil of its total willingness to cooperate with the Lebanese Government.

Upon his arrival in Kuwait yesterday, Brother Abu Iyad said that Israel will try to hamper the negotiations with Lebanon because President Amin al-Jumayyil asserted that he will not sign a peace treaty with Israel. He also said that what is taking place in Ash-Shuf is the greatest proof that Israel intends to remain there.

KUWAIT

GOVERNMENT DEMANDS ISRAELI PULLOUT FROM LEBANON

GF301103 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 29 Dec 82 p 1

[Excerpt] Kuwait yesterday called on Lebanon to insist on the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Lebanese territory and 'not to allow the Israelis any advantages' in current negotiations on a Lebanon settlement.

The Kuwaiti position came in a statement by Cabinet spokesman 'Abd al-Aziz Husayn and was the first official Arab reaction to the talks.

In most other Arab countries -- where public opinion has been conditioned for decades to regard any talks with Israel as something of a stigma -- government-guided newspapers took a cautious line.

"We hope that the talks between Lebanon and the Israeli enemy will lead to the withdrawal of the Israeli invasion forces from the entire Lebanese territory, " Husayn said, "with the enemy gaining no advantages in Lebanon or versus the Lebanese people."

"We are sure that our brethren in Lebanon are well aware of Israel's short- and long-range objectives, as well as its expansionist schemes toward neighboring states," he added.

OMAN

GOVERNMENT PREPARED TO RECEIVE, RESETTLE OMANIS

GF031950 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Statement issued by the Foreign Ministry -- date not given -- announcer read]

[Text] Out of the anxiousness of the Government of the Sultanate of Oman to care for the interests of its citizens and to safeguard the security, stability, and prosperity of every Omani citizen, and out of its anxiousness to provide its citizens with all means of comfort and a free and dignified life, and following the agreement concluded between the Sultanate of Oman and the PDRY in Kuwait on 27 November 1982, the Omani Government has decided to receive all Omani citizens who are still in the PDRY throughout a period of 4 months. All measures have been taken to receive and resettle them.

The period of grace begins today, Monday, 3 January 1983, and ends on Saturday, 30 April 1983.

25 AUG SOLARZ INTERVIEW WITH SADDAM HUSAYN

JN021914 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1525 GMT 2 Jan 83

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Jan (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn has said that the Americans need to understand Iraq as it is now if they really want to establish a genuine relationship with it.

In an interview his excellency recently granted to Stephen Solarz, member of the U.S. House of Representatives, he pointed out that Iraq is not a friend of the United States, but it is also not an enemy. He added that the Americans are sometimes hostile toward Iraq. However, in the past 2 years we have not sensed this hostility except in terms of the weapons which are being given to Iran by friends of the United States.

President Saddam Husayn added: Before the eruption of the war with Iran, the Iraqi leadership discussed the question of the U.S. relationship, because it is not feasible that Iraq, an independent, nonaligned country, should not maintain relations with one of the two superpowers in the world. He explained that Iraq does not want to restore relations with the United States under circumstances that would make its people think that this is due to its urgent need for such relations.

On the U.S. position toward the Palestinian issue, the president said that the Arabs should not expect the Americans to side with them as far as the issue of the Arab-Israeli struggle is concerned. It is their right, however, to ask the Americans to adopt an even-handed stand toward the Arabs and Israelis.

His excellency asked: Is it logical for the United States to side with Israel even though the latter continues to expand at the expense of the Arabs and to strike at them? He added: This is not an even-handed or clear stand. He said that if an Arab official said that the Arabs are satisfied with the United States despite its policy, he doubtless would not be able to convince even his wife and children of this.

President Saddam Husayn pointed out that Iraq has adopted a decision not to oppose any decision that the PLO might adopt with regard to the Palestinian issue. He asserted that Iraq will not submit a specific political motion concerning the solution of the Palestinian issue before it listens to the PLO's viewpoint.

President Saddam Husayn explained that, had Iraq been the one holding negotiations with Israel, it would not have given legitimacy to Israel before the latter grants legitimacy for the Palestinians within a clear political and legal framework. He said that, should the United States ask the Palestinians to recognize Israel before Israel recognizes the rights of the Palestinians and their right to a well-defined state, then it would be committing a mistake if it wants to solve the problem in a just and lasting manner. He asserted that if the United States wants to enjoy good relations with the Arabs and at the same time with Israel, it should look for a lasting solution to the Palestinian problem -- a solution that is not imposed on the Arabs.

On supplying Iran with U.S. arms, President Saddam Husayn pointed out that those who are supplying Iran with arms are not limited to Israel, but include a number of U.S. allies. He said that Iraq has many friends in the world. If Iraq's intelligence apparatus does not obtain the information [on these arms -- FBIS]; it will certainly find someone who will communicate the information to it.

His excellency explained that some friends of the United States other than Israel, NATO members, are supplying Iran with arms, equipment and expertise. They do not like Iran, and are not against the Arabs. Iraq's analysis, however, indicates these have been prompted by the United States to supply Iran with arms.

Asked how the two superpowers can end the Iraqi-Iranian war, the president said that Iraq wants these countries to be sincere in their work to end the war, pointing out that the United States and the Soviet Union can seriously and effectively influence the will of those who do not wish to end the war.

President Saddam Husayn asserted that Iraq rejects a repudiation of Egypt. Egypt is Arab and Husni Mubarak is unlike As-Sadat. Therefore, Egypt must not be far from the Arabs nor must the Arabs be far from Egypt.

He stressed that the Arabs must seriously think of what they should do about Egypt and what Egypt should do about the Arabs. He pointed out that Iraq does not accept misconceptions on the part of the Arabs that they do not need Egypt nor misconceptions on the part of Egypt that it does not need the Arabs.

His excellency asserted that the Arabs can benefit from Egypt, Arab Egypt, and likewise, that Egypt can benefit from the Arabs in economy and trade as well as in principled pan-Arab relations.

President Saddam Husayn pointed out that Iraq is satisfied with President Husni Mubarak and with his behavior toward the war, adding that Mubarak has adopted reasonable political stands and has sold us equipment and arms. Mubarak's behavior, the president added, stems from a broad and generous view of matters, and we will always remember this.

President Saddam Husayn said that Iraq is totally against international terrorism, adding: We have suffered from terrorism and therefore we cannot possibly support it. Also, our mentality cannot adopt this course.

He pointed out that those who are resorting to terrorism do not serve the (?Palestinian) cause, adding that this is a backward, unacceptable tactic. President Saddam Husayn said: This is our clear policy and we have conveyed this to the Palestinian organizations.

On Syrian-Iraqi relations, President Saddam Husayn said that this is a complicated subject. We, the Arabs, wish to discuss our own problems among ourselves without discussing them with foreigners. At any rate, we are Arabs and whenever we believe that our relations with any Arab country benefits the Arabs and mankind we then give generously.

On Iran's conditions to end the war, the president explained that all the documents that Iraq had sent to the United Nations confirm that Iran is the aggressor. Iraq believes that arbitration on this subject should be handled by an international committee.

The president said the talk about compensation without knowing who is the aggressor is irresponsible. Iraqi forces have withdrawn completely from Iranian territory. Iran's sending of the deported Iranians back to Iraq is intervention in Iraq's domestic affairs and an encroachment on its sovereignty. He explained that Iraq wants Iran -- before or after the death of Khomeyni -- united, prosperous, nonaligned, and unaggressive.

On the situation in Afghanistan, the president said that, although it has been preoccupied with war over the past 2 years, Iraq believes that intervention in any nation's life is unacceptable and that the big powers should maintain friendship with the nations without intervening in their affairs.

The following is the text of the interview given by President Saddam Husayn to Stephen Solarz, member of the House of Representatives, on 25 August 1982:

[Question] It is very nice to be here with you, Mr President. I have had several excellent interviews up to now and I feel that my visit has been very fruitful. I value in particular this opportunity to meet with Your Excellency before leaving your country.

[Answer] You are welcome.

[Question] I came to Iraq believing that it is very important for both our countries to have a better mutual understanding. There were differences in the past and some still exist today. We are very interested in improving relations between the two countries. I would like to ask you what is required to restore relations between the United States and Iraq. All of the personalities to whom I have spoken have said that restoring normal relations between the two countries demands some kind of U.S. initiative regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict. However, it is not clear what form such an initiative should take. Practically speaking, regarding the current relations between Israel and the United States, what exactly would you like to see that would make the restoration of normal relations possible?

[Answer] Before we begin discussing direct issues, I understand that your visit to Iraq will be a brief one. During this visit you will learn something about the political system. However, I do not believe that this brief visit will enable you to understand the new Iraq as it really is. I must say that, in everything that the U.S. papers and magazines have published, not a single article has shown Iraq as it really is. Of course, now these papers and magazines are able to more closely observe your misconception that we are part of the Soviet strategy. You believed this until perhaps 3 or 4 years ago. You have said that the regime in Iraq has now changed. I have been part of this regime for 15 years and I have become more accurate and knowledgeable about the composition of and keys to international resolutions, USSR policy, U.S. policy, the policies of the big powers and the relations between them. However, I have not changed from a Soviet into an Iraqi, but have merely become more accurate and capable of serving Iraq than before. However, my real spirit, the Ba'thist Arab Iraqi one, has not changed. This spirit wishes well to mankind, Iraq, and the Arab nation, but not at the expense of others, because I believe that we cannot live happily in today's world upon the ruins of the humanity of others; disregarding principles.

I want to say that the Americans need to understand Iraq as it is if they seriously want to establish real relations with it -- relations unlike those they are today establishing with others. It must be clear to you that we will not be like the region's regimes unless this regime is changed. For the sake of argument perhaps a pro-USSR or pro-U.S. regime could be established although I am confident that this will not happen because the principles of the Iraqi revolution are deeply entrenched in the conscience of every Iraqi. However, we are not sensitive to presumptions in international policy.

Let me elaborate a little as you are a visiting U.S. congressman. I met with the British ambassador in 1969. At that time I had not been proclaimed Revolution Command Council vice chairman. This proclamation was delayed a whole year because I did not like authority as I saw how my comrades in the 1963 command were fiercely struggling for power in a manner which undermined authority. This made me hate official titles.

Therefore, I postponed declaring my official status in the hope that I would not be part of the authorities and in the hope that I would return as an ordinary member in the party. However, these were impossible wishes because I wanted to express my protest against the deviant behavior I saw in the leadership of 1963, as represented by the fight for power by rejecting authority while I was at its head. I said that at the time I met with the British ambassador for over 1 hour -- and you know that the British have more experience than you have in Iraq and know it better. That ambassador knew that a person called Saddam Husayn was important although he had no well-known official status in the state. This meeting took place several months after the revolution. I told him that we do not love you but as decisionmakers we have no prejudices against you. This means that regardless of the others' opinion we can adopt the appropriate decision to develop relations with Britain, although all the region's states hate Britian. We will do so once we are convinced that it is in the interest of Iraq to have good relations with you and once we feel that you have abandoned the feeling that Iraq was once part of the British Empire. I also told him: If you hear an official say otherwise he either does not understand our policy or is incapable of doing anything other than this.

I told the British minister of state for foreign affairs when he visited Iraq in 1974 that now we can establish developed relations with Britain. I added: However, you must recall what I said to your ambassador in 1969. By reviewing this I want to say that we do not hate America but we, up to this time, hate its policy in the region and cannot be reassured about it. You may ask: Does this mean that you do not want America in the region in any way whatsoever? I answer: No, I think it is in our interest that America be present in the region when any other big or superpower is present. I also understand that in today's world no country can claim independence by shutting its doors to the world and yet at the same time keep pace with world development and science. We in Iraq do not want any foreign state to come to the region and work only for its interests to the exclusion of the interests of the region's states. If it confines its concept and behavior to its interests, it will eventually -- if not premeditatingly -- be a colonialist state. Therefore, all foreign states should have legitimate interests when establishing sound relations with the region's states. In our opinion this sort of relationship is safer and more lasting than any other relationship. If we all -- Iraqis, Americans, and French -- ask ourselves what the West wants, I believe that the legitimate matter which we do not oppose and which might be in our interest to stress is that trade and economic relations between the West and region's states should be boosted and that the region's states should not fall into the orbit of the other side's strategy. This is legitimate and not at the expense of the region's states. Meanwhile, we consider the establishment of balanced relations between the region's states and the West very useful, if this happens according to the concepts I have mentioned.

The majority of the region's states are not poor but need to develop. Tell me where the advanced means of development are in the civil life of the world.

I believe that the Americans, British, West Germans, Japanese and the French are much more advanced in certain important aspects that the USSR and its allies with regard to development in civil life. I said this to the Soviets themselves. I said: Let the peoples in the region avoid the continuous need for weapons. Then cultural relations with the West will develop through tourism, visits, exchange and interaction of traditions, study, and exchange of expertise. Economic, technological, and scientific relations would also develop. Thus, the region's countries and the West will benefit and be satisfied.

In the 1950's, when we were young, America did not have an ugly face in the region, that belonged to England and France because of their colonialist presence in the region. You notice now that our relations with France are excellent and many Arab countries speak proudly of their relations with France and not from behind the curtain as is the case with you. Not even your friends are close to you now and when they speak about their relations with you they do so with a very faint voice. Why? Have you ever asked yourselves this question? I believe that you as Americans and in the interest of America must ask and answer that question yourselves. Just as I speak about the interests of my country, you must also speak about the interests of yours. For example, let us speak about Iraq which has friends in many parts of the world. These friends speak about their relations with Iraq without hesitation or shame. However, should they become ashamed of their relations with Iraq, even in front of their children, then I will call for an immediate meeting of the Command to discuss and analyze this phenomenon to find out the reasons. Sadly, some of the big powers in today's world do not accept balanced friendships of mutual interests and trust. It seems that if they do accept such relationships, it is merely transitional and friendship is merely words and subservience is demanded. Some 20 years ago the implementation of the policy of subservience was possible just as the big powers wished and the cost was not very high. Despite that, England and France found themselves losing their positions in the world quickly when nations became more enlightened. At that time the United States tried to replace them in the region, However, I believe that in the past the competition for so-called friends in the region was among the countries of the Western world itself. Now, however, new elements have entered the international political arena. The most important of these elements is the increasing awareness of nations of the importance of their independence and that the USSR has ventured outside its borders. This is a new phenomenon and the Americans, English, or the French must surely be aware of it and realize its practical significance. At the same time the USSR must not imagine that it is the only power in the world because the new modern life has given the small countries alternatives. Those who do not want the friendship of the United States, of course, must find friends elsewhere, perhaps in the USSR, PRC or any other country.

You must understand the characteristics of this region. You sometimes make your friends look small. When you ask them to be subordinates without independent decisions, willpower or stands, they lose influence even in their own countries. I have, of course, noticed over the past 3 years that you have changed this behavior with some of your friends, however, very often the change has only been a formality.

The other point is Israel. I do not believe that the Arabs aspire, or should aspire, for the United States to stand on their side on the subject of the Arab-Israeli conflict. They have the right, however, to ask the Americans to be even-handed in their stand between the Arabs and Israel; all the Arabs on one side and Israel on the other. Why doesn't the United States pursue a balanced policy in this relationship?

[Question] Mr President, let me first say that I fully agree with you that the United States has an obligation toward itself in its relations with other countries. Any policy which is pro-Israel and does not at all consider the legitimate rights of the Arab world is not in the best interests of the United States itself. I must also say in all honesty that I believe that most Americans, including myself, believe that it is in our interest to maintain good relations with Israel. At the same time, however, I also believe that most Americans, including myself, feel that we must do more to improve relations with the Arabs. I am just assuming, and my question is: If we take this fact into consideration, and as you can see the United States is not about to completely sever its relations with Israel...

[Husayn interrupts] This will not happen.

[Solarz continues] What, in specific and clear terms, must the United States do also in specific and clear points to tangibly express a more balanced policy in the region?

[Answer] When you are a friend of Mazin and Saddam Husayn for instance, and the two quarrel, what is your duty as a friend? It is to come between them and settle their dispute, is it not? But is Saddam Husayn sees you unsheathe your dagger and give it to Mazin, would not this mean that you are asking Mazin to stab Saddam Husayn? The United States has done this more than once. If Israel is indeed asking for its own security on the basis of the old Zionist propaganda that the West must back Israel so it will not be attacked by the Arabs, then the United States could say to Israel: I am with you if you are attacked by the Arabs. But is it conceivable for the United States to support Israel while it is attacking the Arabs and expanding at their expense? We have scores of examples of this. This is not a balanced or fair stand. If you hear someone say that we are pleased with the United States despite its policy, then believe me this someone cannot convince even his own wife and children. Believe me, such officials are two-faced. You need to deal with officials who tell you the truth and who say: We are Jordanians, Iraqis, and Saudis, and, therefore, our interests must come first before the U.S. interests. We also believe, however, that it is possible for our interests to converge. We also believe that it is possible to achieve mutual confidence through tangible facts which prove that both sides are worthy of such positive mutual confidence. Is it right under any law, for Israel to do what it has done in Lebanon? Is it right for the Arabs to emerge with the conviction that the United States, which has created Israel and supplied it with all the means of military and nonmilitary power, cannot stop Israel from harming the region without any justification?

If the Arabs are convinced of this then that would not be in the interest of the United States. If they are convinced that the United States was also involved and colluded then that also would not be in the interest of the United States. I believe that some Arabs have caused a great deal of harm to the United States. U.S. policy was harmed because your friends did not tell the bitter truth even once. Had they done so you would have been aware and you would not have made mistakes on other occasions. You would have then visited Iraq, for example, assuming that Iraq is your friend as of course we are either your friends or enemies. Sometimes you act with hostility toward us but we have not felt this over the past 2 years except through the arms given to the Iranians by your friends. I mean that were you to visit Iraq for example, the U.S. President would visit Iraq and meet with Saddam Husayn who would brief him on the facts as they really are and as he believes they are and he would also brief him on the problems in the region. The U.S. President will have his own opinion, information, and analysis just as the USSR, Jordanian, Iraqi, or Moroccan would. The important thing is to portray the facts as they are and for each one of us to endeavor to alter the other's attitudes through the interaction of viewpoints to make the interests meet. Thus, changing ideas and positions in order to diminish the scope of conflicts is an inevitable human consequence. However, when we merely welcome you and say that you are our friends and we depend upon you without mentioning the bitter facts, then the fire will continue to smoulder and you will find yourselves faced with surprises. I believe that these type of friends harm themselves and you.

[Question] Mr President, I understand the point which you kindly explained. I believe that frankness and spontaneity are prerequisites for friendship, and that friends cannot possibly serve each other correctly if they do not tell each other the truth.

I can also say that it seems to me that Iraq will affect the U.S. position in the region more prominently and effectively within the framework of normalization of relations. I can only say and take into consideration the fact that there are many Arabs that share your anxiety over and criticism of the U.S. policy toward Israel. Yet despite that, these countries such as Algeria, Syria, Jordan, Morocco, and several other countries still have diplomatic relations with the United States. They have all expressed their opposition to and criticism of our policy in the region yet they maintained diplomatic relations with us because it is the practical thing to do. If the United States embarks on a new initiative now to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict, indicating that it will endeavor to achieve a settlement based on Israel's withdrawal from territories it occupied in 1967 with the subsequent attainment of self-determination for the Palestinian people, the West Bank, and Gaza Strip within a framework in which the Arab countries agree to peaceful coexistence with Israel...

[Husayn interrupts] Are the Arab countries required to agree to peaceful coexistence with Israel or vice versa?

[Solarz continues] Both should agree to peaceful coexistence. When we in the United States say that it takes two to tango. This means that it also takes two to establish peace. If the United States undertakes such an initiative, to what extent do you think this will help normalize relations with it?

[Answer] In 1970 I visited the USSR at the head of a delegation. That year we had to repay to the USSR a debt of not more than 34 million and not less than 17 million dinars. Our financial situation was sad. Therefore, I asked the USSR officials to postpone repayment of the debt for 1 year. However, they refused. Naturally, we were young struggling Ba'thists and had a conflict with the Iraqi Communist Party, some of which was bloody. Nevertheless, we imagined that the USSR would behave differently toward the poor countries. After failing to convince them to postpone repayment of the debt I told them: When I return to Iraq -- and I was in civilian clothes -- I will sell the jacket I am wearing if necessary in order to immediately repay the debt. After my return to Iraq we repaid the installments the way they wanted.

During that visit I noticed that they did not discuss any serious political topics with us. In my opinion I think that one of the main reasons for this was the fact that we went there to ask for delaying payment of the due debts. Perhaps if we had visited them for another purpose they might have dealt differently with us.

In 1975 and 1976 the USSR ambassador came to see me and said: We need an additional quantity of oil but we cannot pay you this year. It was worth about $250 million. I asked him: Do you really need this amount? He answered: Yes. I then told him we agreed without even submitting the request to the leadership. I also told him: Tell your government that it is in this way that we view friendship. In this regard I reminded him of 1970. When a friend needs something under difficult circumstances, his friend should help him. However, in other cases the opposite may happen. Friendship is not weighed by scales used in small shops, but is valued within a strategic framework. It is not the last part of this talk that is important but the first part.

Accordingly, I can tell you that before the war I had a limited discussion with some of my comrades in the leadership on Iraqi-U.S. relations because I believe that it is incorrect for Iraq -- a nonaligned and independent country -- to maintain severed relations with one of the two superpowers. However, war broke out and the discussion of the idea by the leadership was frozen. Do not expect us to restore relations with you under circumstances which will make our people understand that we are restoring relations out of dire need of you. We do not undertake major issues in the midst of incorrect interpretations.

I can tell you confidently that when our relationship with you is normal you can be useful in one way or another. However, we, more than many in the region, can talk about facts, even the bitter ones, when we sit with you. We believe that this relationship will benefit the Americans, although you will not hear our opinion in a relationship established under war conditions as well as that established under other conditions.

[Question] Mr President, we have indicated that it would be in the interest of the United States to adopt a more balanced policy concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict, and that it would also be in our interest to use our influence to reach a solution to this conflict. I am interested in your viewpoint as to what the solution to the conflict between Israel and the Arabs requires. It seems to me there are two possibilities. I believe it is important for us to benefit from and be inspired by your opinions on this matter. Does a solution to the conflict between Israel and the Arabs and the achievement of lasting peace in the region require Israel's withdrawal to the 1967 borders and the recognition of the right of the Palestinian people to exist and of the residents of the West Bank and Gaza to determine their own destiny, which could lead to the establishment of a Palestinian state? Furthermore, does the achievement of a solution to the conflict between Israel and the Arabs and lasting peace in the region require the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza and the withdrawl of Israel to the 1967 borders, or another alternative represented by the establishment of a secular democratic state consisting of Gaza, the West Bank and Israel? In other words, does the solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict require the elimination of Israel as a Zionist entity? Can the Arab-Israeli conflict be solved on the basis of the establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza which can coexist side by side with Israel?

[Answer] Let me first say that the decision we made more than 1 year ago is that we will not oppose any decision made by the PLO concerning the Palestinian question. Therefore, we have no right to express a definite political opinion on the solution to this question without first hearing the opinion of the PLO in all official meetings. When this subject is raised at the coming summit conference, I, or my representative, will not express an opinion without first hearing the opinion of the PLO official. Let me now go back to your question. If I were the one negotiating with you -- that is, with Israel -- I would not give Israel any legitimacy before granting legitimacy to the Palestinians within a clear political and legal framework. I believe that if you ask the Palestinians to recognize Israel before the latter clearly recognizes the Palestinians' right to their clear and specific state, you would be committing an error, especially if you are seeking a radical and just solution to this problem. Because, you would thus have obtained from the Palestinians their recognition of Israel legitimacy without obtaining from Israel its recognition of the legitimacy of Palestinian rights.

I tell you frankly that there is not a single Arab official now who believes in the possibility of removing [izalat] Israel and considers this in his policy. On the other hand, there is not a single Arab who believes in the possibility of coexisting with an expansionist, aggressive entity.

[Question] Mr President, if the Israelis were willing to recognize the Palestinian state, and we assume that this state would be in the West Bank and Gaza, would you oppose it at this stage?

[Answer] Let me ask you as an American: Do you believe in the establishment of a Palestinian state on the whole of the West Bank and Gaza?

[Question] If we set aside specific borders...

[Husayn interrupts] Do not ask final borders from me, before defining your own final borders, although, as I said, I am not the negotiating side. The Palestinians are the negotiating side and must speak first.

[Question] Can I talk to you as an individual?

[Answer] You came to me as a congressman and I am Saddam Husayn, a head of state. What I say will be final. However, what you say will not be. Allow me to explain my point of view: There is not a single Arab official who considers in his policy the so-called destruction of Israel and its obliteration from existence. I say this disregarding all the intentions that may exist beyond the probabilities of the age. [sentence as received] The Arabs must not disregard the laws of the age in their thinking and calculations. However, I believe that the Arabs must not announce the limits of their constitutional and legal concepts before they at least recognize the United States' final decision, to which Israel will be committed and with which the United States will support the Arabs. Often a party other than Israel submits a slogan urging a peace settlement and the Arabs at first reject it. The Arabs then argue over it and eventually fight over it. Israel then says who told you that I accept such a settlement and rejects it.

[Question] It is fair to ask, Mr President, if any solution to the Palestinian problem that is acceptable to the PLO will be acceptable to you.

[Answer] We will not oppose any solution that is acceptable to the Palestinians.

[Question] What was your position on King Fahd's plan to resolve the Arab-Israel conflict?

[Answer] This plan has been submitted to the summit conference. We will attend this summit. Therefore, we will not give details or express our opinion about the summit agenda before the conference convenes.

[Question] Will you unequivocally reject any new U.S. attempt to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict?

[Answer] Our opinion is clear. We will reject any idea unacceptable to the PLO and vice versa.

[Question] Mr President, I was confused about your opinion on the possibility of benefiting from the framework created by the Camp David accords and the means to solve the problem. Do you conceive any possibility to expand the Camp David agreement?

[Answer] Why do you stick to a detested name and a partial and rejected content? Why don't you try to discuss matters with an open mind? The Camp David agreement was rejected by all the Arabs except Egypt in an Arab decision taken by the Arabs who met in the Baghdad summit. I want to reach a point of argument and say that at present the United States may be able to peddle the Camp David agreement or other similar agreements. Many Arabs, not all of them, may agree to it. By Arabs I mean the official ones. Can such an agreement and such dead solutions solve the problem?

The United States commits a big mistake by acting according to the policy of forcing the Arabs to recognize Israel under the current circumstances. The Arab position is now weak for well-known reasons. Therefore, some sort of a solution may be imposed on them or part of them.

However, the United States must ask itself if it wants a final solution or a partial one which might last 1, 2, or 3 years. If the United States is seeking a solution which will maintain its good relations with both the Arabs and Israel, it should then search for a solution which does not make the Arabs feel that it is imposed on them.

[Question] Mr President, I do appreciate your frank answers. I would like to ask you the second question and I would like you to give, with all sincerity, your viewpoint should Israel agree to return to the pre-1967 borders, but only within an objective framework, giving Jordan the primary responsibility for administrating the West Bank and Gaza Strip. (?Does) this represent an acceptable solution to the problem? Would it be sufficient for Israel to withdraw to the 1967 lines and to accept the establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip as a way to solve the conflict?

[Answer] I do not believe that forcing the Palestinians, under the current circumstances, to accept a constitutional formula with any Arab state is a sound action. However, I believe that the simultaneous existence of an independent Palestinian state acceptable to the Palestinians and the existence of a secure state for the Israelis are both necessary.

I believe that you will be committing a grave mistake, unacceptable of course to the Arabs and Iraq, if you think that Jordan is suitable as a Palestinian state. In other words, the state of Palestine would be on the east bank of the Jordan, as some Israeli officials have remarked. The Arabs would feel that their entire existence was threatened and that the political map of their national entity could be threatened any time by an international conspiracy or by the desire of this or that big power.

[Question] Mr President, I do not know of any U.S. official who believes for one moment that a solution to the Palestinian problem falls within the framework of establishing a Palestinian state in what today is called the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. I believe that the majority of U.S. officials realize that the place upon which the Palestinian issue will be settled lies on the west bank of the River Jordan and not on its east bank. Despite that I believe that there are U.S. officials who hope to solve the Palestinian issue through a form of political and constitutional relationship between the east and west banks. My question to you is: If the United States insists on such a relationship between the east and west banks, will this make the solution to the problem impossible, and will it be difficult to solve the problem within its own framework?

[Answer] I do not believe that this will solve the problem. I believe that such a case will create problems between the Jordanians and the Palestinians and the situation could well accept some form of relationship with Jordan from their will, freedom, and choice and without any pressure. Such a relationship between two Arab regimes facing up to the future is a natural occurrence. We are not against it.

[Question] Let us assume that the solution to the Palestinian problem is such that the PLO's role is discarded, that is, the establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank. Let us also assume that Israel agreed to withdraw from the Golan and to arrangements regarding East Jerusalem, and Syria and the PLO agreed to normalize relations with Israel and to establish diplomatic relations and tourist and cultural exchange with it. Do you believe that under such circumstances a country like Iraq would agree to normalize relations with Israel?

[Answer] You must first discuss this issue with the parties directly concerned because of their geographical and political considerations. There are no final laws and no final positions except for those dictated by principles and strategies. Iraq now has no diplomatic relations with the United States but the Arabs do. We must not speculate on what might take place. We should wait until it takes place before we are asked that question.

[Question] Mr President, you mentioned that Israel is providing Iran with arms.

[Answer] We are not the only ones who mention this, your newspapers have also mentioned it. Israel struck us. We have no borders with it and we are not fighting an actual war with it now but with Iran.

[Question] I am speaking about the Israeli military aid to Iran now. We are in a dilemma here because we oppose Israel's desire and policy of transferring its arms to Iran; this is against the will and policy of the United States. You know that Israel has a large quantity of arms and a reasonable amount of these arms stockpiled. It is not very clear to us whether the arms it is selling to Iran are U.S.- or Israeli-manufactured.

[Answer] Israel is not the only supplying arms to Iran. Some allies of the United States are also supplying it with arms. We know this and so do you. Intelligence information in international politics is always subject to the theory of equal pressure. We have many friends in the world. If our intelligence does not have the information, we will obtain it from someone else. As I said, Israel is not the only one. U.S. friends, including members of NATO, are giving arms, equipment, and expertise to Iran. In examining their personal situation, we find that these friends do not like Iran or agree with its policy. They are also not against the Arabs, and they have no reason to be against Iraq. According to our analysis, these friends are giving arms, equipment, and expertise to Iran at the behest of the United States so that U.S. relations with Iran will remain open in this way at our own expense -- that is, at the expense of Iraq.

[Question] Mr President, concerning the Iraqi-Iranian dispute, it seems to me that both of us have at least two interests in common: to reach a solution to this dispute, on an honorable basis of course, and to the military aid which Iran gets from Israel. Is there anything else you want the United States to do concerning this dispute?

[Answer] We want the two superpowers to be honest in their efforts to end this war. The USSR has made us understand that it does not want the continuation of this war. We wanted to end the war almost as soon as it broke out. The United States says that it is against the continuation of this war. Has it ever happened in the world that two oil states, especially in the Gulf where the West has vested interests, go to war for 2 years and yet the two superpowers, the United States and the USSR, do nothing to stop the war?

I tell you in all honesty that when we analyze the reasons for the continuation of the war and the positions of the superpowers on it, we find that the USSR is closer to the region, but the United States also has influential friends in the region and also well-known vital interests. Therefore, the USSR and the United States can, if they want, act seriously and bring effective pressure on the side which does not want to stop the war.

How could this war continue for 2 years, were it not for the fact that 90 percent of Iranian arms are Western?

[Question] You do not have official relations with the United States.

[Answer] We have agreed with the United States to deal through the charge d'affaires here. From the viewpoint of protocol, he is like an ambassador. I believe this took place after the outbreak of the [Iraqi-Iranian] war in 1980. We have also agreed with the U.S. Administration on the possibility of holding a meeting or a dialogue at any political level at the request of one side and the approval of the other, despite the severance of diplomatic relations between us.

[Question] You have a friendship treaty with the USSR. What is your assessment of Iraqi-Soviet relations at the present time?

[Answer] This is another subject which we will discuss with the USSR.

[Question] How about relations with Egypt now that Husni Mubarak is president?

[Answer] It is essential to know our regime. Accordingly, I told you that you should stay here for a while. Now you have heard Saddam Husayn talk, but you should stay longer in order to see facts for yourself. It is our policy that if an Arab puts his leg on our chest we will still have an additional store of patience and wisdom to lift his leg from our chest and put it on the ground without cutting off his head. We believe that As-Sadat committed a big mistake by isolating Egypt from the Arabs when he signed the Camp David accords. However, we must not repudiate Egypt. Egypt is Arab and Husni Mubarak is unlike As-Sadat. Therefore, Egypt should not remain alienated from the Arabs and the Arabs should not remain alientated from Egypt. The Arabs should seriously study what they should do toward Egypt. Egypt must also seriously study what it should do toward the Arabs. It is unacceptable that the Arabs get so conceited as to imagine that they no longer need Egypt or vice versa.

[Question] The Arab world needs Egypt because it is an important part of it.

[Answer] Without the Arabs Egypt will become communist. You cannot satisfy the needs of the Egyptians and your companies are always seeking profit. You cannot satisfy the needs of the poor. However, the Arabs can benefit from Egypt and Egypt can benefit from the Arabs in the economic and trade fields, in addition to the principled pan-Arab relations.

[Question] I absolutely agree with you, Mr President. I also believe that we all have an interest in restoring Egypt's relations with the other Arab countries as a practical solution. Will rapprochement between Egypt and the rest of the Arab countries make Egypt rescind the Camp David agreement and sever relations with Israel?

[Answer] No Arab has so far said this. Let us not talk about some Arabs whose actions depend on political bargaining. We are not one of them. We say that the Egyptian regime must study the practical steps which convince the Arabs that Egypt wants relations with them for the sake of the strength of all. Likewise, the Arabs should study the adoption of practical steps toward Egypt under the new circumstances after As-Sadat. We are satisfied with President Husni Mubarak's attitude toward our war. He adopted good political stands and sold us weapons and hardware. His behavior stems from an extensive view of matters in a generous way. We record this for him.

[Question] One of the past problems between the United States and Iraq was a U.S. feeling -- which continued at least until recently -- that Iraq used to support what the United States considered terrorist movements and activities. It also continued its support for the Palestinian people's armed struggle against Israel's occupation of their lands. What is Iraq's position on the Palestinian attacks against innocent civilians as evident in hijacking planes and attacking schools, hospitals, and civilians who have nothing to do with their problem?

[Answer] First, I would like to begin by saying that we oppose international terrorism. We have suffered from it and therefore cannot possibly support terrorism. We do not possess a mentality in that direction because our responsibility lies within a tight national framework. We have always adhered to our rights and principles and we have a clear concept of humanity whether represented by a U.S., Soviet, Polish, or Palestinian side. Of course, due to our special pan-Arab sentiments we feel more for the Palestinians because they are Arabs. However, when a Palestinian comes to Iraq without an identity card, obtains an Iraqi identity card and leaves Iraq to do something in Belgium, is that considered Iraq's responsibility?

[Question] No.

[Answer] Therefore, the point which you must understand is Iraq's belief that any Arab who has no identity card or place to go and wishes to come to live in Iraq and requests an Iraqi identity card is welcome. We have thousands of Egyptians here and many Arab nationals. Do we share their viewpoints when they carry out a terrorist act somewhere in the world? The answer is no. This is not just to answer your question, it is the truth. We are against terrorism and we believe that those who carry out terrorist acts are not benefiting the Palestinian cause by adopting this method. Our policy is quite clear: We reject this method. We have told the Palestinian organizations of our opinion. However, I believe that perhaps Palestinian terrorism might escalate following their departure from Beirut, particularly if they despair of the possibility of a settlement through other means. The Palestinians are now spread all over the world following the events in Beirut, particularly following Israel's crimes. Some of them came to Iraq. You asked us through your representative here whether we would receive Palestinians in Iraq. The Foreign Ministry told your representative that the leadership was studying the issue in light of the development.

[Question] Naturally, Mr President, you helped a great deal in easing the current security situation in Beirut by accepting a number of Palestinian fighters into your country.

[Answer] We agreed to receive the Palestinian fighters outside your plans and consultations and those of others. We received them as Arabs who wanted to come to Iraq. However, we excluded some political organizations of whom we had preconceived ideas and who realized this and thus did not request to come to Iraq.

[Question] When the PLO completes its departure from Beirut, will you be in favor of the withdrawal of all other foreign forces from Lebanon, including the Israelis and the Syrians?

[Answer] With regard to the Syrians, we have opposed their presence in Lebanon from the beginning. Of course, we oppose any form of occupation regardless of its nationality. Therefore, it is natural for us to oppose the Israeli occupation of Lebanon and demand that Lebanon should be immediately handed back to its people. As for our opinion on whether the Syrian forces should withdraw or not, in fact, I cannot give you my decisive opinion on that because I have not yet visualized the situation in Lebanon after the withdrawal of the Palestinians. It all depends on Israel's behavior. I say this regardless of our well-known opinion of the Syrian regime and they also have their opinion of us. However, we must not tackle these topics within a narrow framework. We must always tackle them within a broad one.

[Question] Really, Mr President, if the Israelis agreed to withdraw from Lebanon and the Lebanese Government asked the Syrians to withdraw, can I assume that under such circumstances Iraq would support the Lebanese Government?

[Answer] We do not believe that Arab relations should be based on force. The Syrians should not have entered Lebanon in the first place and now if the Lebanese Government and the Lebanese ask them to go, then they must go.

[Question] Mr President, I have made it one of my objectives to visit the Middle East at least once a year during my 8 years in Congress.

[Answer] But you have not been to Iraq before.

[Question] I have not been to Iraq, because your government did not grant me an entry visa. I enquired about this on three occasions. The truth is, on one occasion I sent a young lady to the Iraqi Interests Section [in Washington] to obtain the necessary visa forms, and the person from whom she requested the forms asked her for a dinner date.

[Answer] I cannot see any harm in that for the United States. Is there?

[Question] But the date did not take place and so I did not get the visa. Next time, I will send a more accommodating lady.

[Answer] This is the problem with some Arabs.

[Question] At any rate, neither he nor I was let in [as received]. I visited Syria on three occasions. And while there, I used to wonder about the reasons behind the estranged ties between Syria and Iraq. The Ba'th Party is in power in both countries. It is obvious that relations are very bad, and I am very interested in your analysis of the reason behind the estranged ties between Iraq and Syria.

[Answer] This is a complicated subject. At any rate, we Arabs like to discuss our private affairs among ourselves, not with foreigners. Do not let this subject worry you. When our relationship with any Arab state concerns the interest of the Arabs and mankind, we will not fail to come forth.

[Question] Mr President, this discussion has been very useful. I believe that I have begun to understand your government's policy better. I will, in fact, submit a special report on this meeting to the U.S. Administration and Congress. I wonder, would you like what took place here to remain secret or would you allow part of it to be released to the press?

[Answer] I have no objection when what we are saying is something which we believe in and is part of our established policy. Actually, there is nothing secret. Therefore, you can dispose of it in the manner you deem beneficial. We have said this with an open mind and as an expression of our policy as we believe it. But if something is attributed to me in the media, it would be in its full context, not curtailed, so the reader will have a clear picture.

[Question] This is a very reasonable request. I give my personal guarantee on everything that I will say about this interview. I will also reflect accurately what you have told me. Mr President, I hope to return to Iraq in the future and spend more time with you.

[Answer] You are requested to spend more time in Iraq and we must understand the Americans better. The Americans are also requested to understand us better. In fact, the Americans need to understand us more than we need to understand them.

For a long time you were confusedly talking about a communist Iraq or an Iraq which is about to become communist. After a while you began to talk about terrorist Iraq, however, now you have begun to understand part of Iraq's policy. I believe that if you have begun to understand Iraq's policy then those concerned must also begin to understand it.

[Question] I hope to return to Iraq, better understand it, tour the country, and know about the gains of the revolution. However, my problem is that I have to leave Iraq at 1100 aboard a plane heading for Amman. Mr President, could you please arrange for my transport to the airport as I have booked a seat on a Jordanian airliner, flight No 811?

[Answer] One of the matters which might be a puzzle is that before the war broke out Iraqi and Iranian oil was deleted from the market. Nevertheless, there was an oil glut. What is the secret behind that? How do you interpret this? Was it part of the trend to stop the war or part of the state whose continuation encourages and reassures the buyers?

[Solarz answers] Your question can be answered by Weiss, who is a member of the delegation and an expert in these matters.

[Weiss] The question poses itself and I want to ask about your plans regarding the Iraqi oil production at present or once a solution is reached to the conflict with Iran.

[Answer] At present we are producing a meagre quantity of oil, which is transported via Turkey. As for the future you know that our oil reserves are large and undiscovered oil deposits exist extensively. You have U.S. firms prospecting for oil here.

[Weiss] Are you hoping that the Saudis will make greater production allocations for OPEC member states and do you intend to increase your oil production even over the previous levels or will you leave this to the Saudis?

[Answer] We would like to increase production, if possible. After the war, the country will need revenues. Therefore, it will increase its production to meet this need. As you know, our country needs to develop. Therefore, we must produce the quantity of oil necessary for our country.

[Weiss] Are you concerned that your gross output will lower oil prices?

[Answer] When Iraq and Iran come out of the war, they will certainly need to produce and market greater quantities of oil. This will naturally affect oil prices.

[Weiss] Do you expect a reduction in production by other states in such a situation?

[Answer] This will depend on those states. I cannot say exactly what will happen.

[Weiss] Would you ask or encourage them to make such reductions?

[Answer] At any rate, any major fault on the subject of supply and demand will be examined by OPEC collectively. But it is definite that when Iraq and Iran begin producing greater quantities, there will be a problem. The supply will be greater than the demand. Other factors might also come in to exaggerate matters one way or the other.

[Question] Mr President, as I understand, the Iranians have said that certain conditions must be met first before the war is ended. The first is the return to the recognized international borders. The second is that Iraq must officially admit that it began the war. The third is that compensations must be paid to Iran. And the fourth is that Iraq must permit Iranian deportees to return. I would be very pleased if you could provide the answer to these.

[Answer] First, we have documents which prove that Iran was the aggressor. These documents are memos which we sent to the United Nations concerning Iranian aggression against us before and during September 1980. Second, we have said clearly that we believe we should go before an international arbitration commission, whether in the form of a UN agency, the Security Council, the Islamic Conference or the Nonaligned Movement, and let it study and decide who is the aggressor. The talk about compensation before knowing who is the aggressor is irresponsible and does not deserve consideration. As for the subject of withdrawal from the border, we have already withdrawn. You may have noticed that after our withdrawal to the border, Iran crossed this border and carried out five offensives against the city of Basra. As for the return of the Iranians, this is interference in our internal affairs and an encroachment on our sovereignty. Is it permissible for the United States, for example, to force some of its citizens on to the USSR and to consider that a condition for normal relations between the United States and the USSR?

[Question] Mr President, I imagine Khomeyni will not live forever. What do you think will happen in Iran after his death?

[Answer] We wanted Iran, be it before or after the death of Khomeyni, to be united, solid, prosperous, strong, unaggressive, and nonaligned. This is how we wanted Iran to be. But in dealing with us, Iran should not carry out any acts of aggression against us or against the Gulf states. The Iranians are free to choose their own life, be it now or after the death of Khomeyni.

[Question] There are some who believe that when Khomeyni dies, there will be some kind of civil war and that whatever person or symbol comes to power the mullahs will vanish and chaos will prevail. Also, the Tudeh Party might emerge amid this chaos and assume a hegemonic position. Others, who entertain a different viewpoint, might also emerge. We admit that the Iranian people are not responsible for what is taking place in Iran. No foreign power has the right to interfere in Iran's domestic affairs. Can you say what might possibly take place in Iran?

[Answer] Four years before the death of Mao Tse Tung, I told my comrades that he should have died 10 years ago. I believe that the harm which is afflicting Iran during Khomeyni's life is much bigger than that which would afflict Iran after his death.

However, when we look at matters as they are, I believe that the continuation of the war, whether Khomeyni is alive or not, will create massive problems for Iran. But if the war ends, Khomeyni should die the next day to give others the opportunity to work logically, at least. But if Khomeyni dies and the war continues, there perhaps would not be anyone who would say "how can we stop the war because Khomeyni wanted the war when he was alive." At any rate, even if the war continues, Khomeyni will die. It is, however, difficult to predict the future of nations by means of advance theory. But the way Khomeyni is behaving makes surprises possible. Two days ago, he revoked all laws without telling the Iranians to which law they should abide. This is pure chaos, and chaos always produces results beyond expectations.

[Question] Mr President, both our countries have criticized the occupation of Afghanistan. Also both our countries want the Soviet troops to withdraw from Afghanistan to enable the Afghan people to determine their own future. Do you have any idea how this could take place?

[Answer] Actually, we have not shown any interest in this problem over the past 2 years because we have been preoccupied with war and because we have a lot of problems. Anyhow, this is our principled stand: We do not interfere in other nations' affairs. The super and major powers should maintain friendship with nations without interfering in their affairs.

[Question] Mr President, I would like to thank you again for having agreed to receive me and for conducting this dialogue with far-reaching dimensions. Do you have any questions that you would like to ask us?

[Answer] Thank you very much. We do not want to put pressure on you. Time is short and, God willing, there will be another chance where I will be the one who asks the questions and you the one who answers.

[Solarz] I would not be able to give half as much as you have answered. I was a university professor in New York before entering the field of politics. Had you been one of my students, I would have given you an "A" average.

[Husayn] I would never have been so had I been your student.

[Solarz] Thank you very much.

[Husayn] It was a good opportunity. May God guide your steps.

TARIQ 'AZIZ LEAVES FOR OFFICIAL VISIT TO FRANCE

JN031246 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Jan (INA) -- Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister, left Baghdad for Paris today on an official visit to France lasting several days.

He will hold talks with the French officials on bilateral relations and ways of promoting them, in addition to the current situation in the Arab region and several other issues of common interest.

PLO'S HANI AL-HASAN ARRIVES IN AMMAN 3 JAN

JN040930 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 4 Jan 83 pp 1, 17

[Text] Amman, (QNA) -- Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and member of the Palestinian side in the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee for the support of the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied homeland and of the Higher Jordanian-Palestinian Committee for political coordination between Jordan and the PLO, arrived in Amman from Damascus yesterday on a visit to Jordan during which he will attend the meetings of these committees which will be held in Amman next week.

The two committees will discuss Jordanian-Palestinian coordination affairs, the strategy of future cooperation between Jordan and the PLO, and ways of strengthening and supporting the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied homeland.

AD-DUSTUR COMMENTS ON ISRAELI-LEBANESE TALKS

JN311100 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 31 Dec 82

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Under the headline "Lebanon and Extremist Intentions," AD-DUSTUR says: The second round of the Israeli-Lebanese-U.S. negotiations, which was held in Qiryat Shemona yesterday, was inconclusive. This is because the major difference between the Israeli and Lebanese sides on the agenda is not merely a matter of form and is not peripheral. In fact, it is a difference predetermined by the talks. Israel is placing Lebanon's first irrevocable priority at the end of the negotiating agenda. Thus, the retreat of either side from its stand gives the other the opportunity to achieve all its objectives.

AD-DUSTUR adds: By insisting on discussing the Israeli withdrawal before any other subject, Lebanon is exercising the indisputable right to insist that the Israeli occupation, which resulted from a barbaric, much-condemned invasion, not lead to any gains. Strongly opposing the Lebanese stand, Israel is interested in discussing normalization as a price for its withdrawal from Lebanon. By doing this, Israel is seeking to entrench the already rejected concept that military superiority will ensure peace, even if it is through invasion and occupation.

AD-DUSTUR adds: The seriousness of the Israeli insistence on entrenching such an unprecedented concept goes far beyond Lebanon to embrace the whole area. Any victory by Zionist extremism and the fortress mentality as adopted by Begin may urge Israel in one way or another to repeat what it did in Lebanon in all the other Middle East states. In short, this means a continuation of the tense, volatile situation in the area and a constant threat to world peace.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: Therefore, the Israeli-Lebanese negotiations, with direct U.S. participation, are linked not only with the Lebanese or Middle East crisis, but also with world peace, justice, and all human values and principles. A Lebanese success in forcing an unconditional Israeli withdrawal is a defeat for all those who believe that military superiority can lead to concrete results. Similarly, an Israeli victory in achieving political gains, despite its killing, destruction, invasion, and occupation, will kindle a blaze in the area which will be difficult to check and which may well expose world peace to dangers such as those which led to World War II, which ended with victory over Nazism's extremism, hotheadedness and desire for the annihilation and destruction of all that is human.

THIRD ROUND OF WITHDRAWAL TALKS HELD 3 JAN

Information Ministry Dispatch

NC031443 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1424 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Disptach by the Lebanese Ministry of Information from the Lebanon Beach Hotel in Khaldah, read in Arabic, French, and English, processed from English -- live]

[Text] At exactly 1605 today, the second round of talks started, and now the negotiations are continuing to reach a full withdrawal of Israeli troops and all foreign troops from the Lebanon. There is no fear from any Israeli refusal to withdraw from Lebanon now that Ambassador Fattal emphasized in a radio and television broadcast that working towards an agenda was not a prerequisite, and the delegation will surpass this to work towards the heart of the problem.

What drew attention of the foreign press was the talk of Ambassador Fattal on the time factor, and especially when he evoked the slow process to avoid mistakes. This doesn't mean that Lebanon aims at prolonging or loitering the peace process, but Lebanon is decided on rejecting the normalization process and willing to broaden the armistice agreement signed in 1949 between Lebanon and Israel. Lebanon is fully decided to spread legitimate wings over all its territory after, of course, a full withdrawal of all foreign troops from our country.

Beirut Report

NC031922 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] During the third round of negotiations with the Israeli side held today in Khaldah with the participation of the U.S. side, the Lebanese delegation insisted on placing the question of the Israeli withdrawal as the first item on the agenda. The Lebanese delegation called for bypassing peripheral complications and for discussing substantive issues directly with a view to speeding up the negotiation process, accelerating the pullouts from Lebanon, and overcoming procedural complications.

No Agreement on Agenda

NC031508 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] The third round of Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. negotiations on the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon ended at approximately 1630 today. The spokesman for the Lebanese delegation, Major 'Atif Tarabay, read the following statement: We will continue the efforts to reach an agreement on the agenda of the negotiations at the next meeting, which will be held in Qiryat Shemona at 1000 on Thursday.

Jerusalem Report

TA031521 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] The delegations of Israel, Lebanon, and the United States ended their deliberations in Khaldah less than an hour ago and issued a joint communique saying that the attempts to reach agreement about the agenda will continue. The next round will be on Thursday, 6 January, in Qiryat Shemona.

Before that, Lebanese delegation head Antoine Fattal expressed optimism that an agreed formulation would be found for that problem and that of normalization. According to him, both sides were showing flexibility. Even if no agreement was achieved on that question, he said, the sides might discuss the basic issues without an agenda.

Fattal pointed out that Israel was behaving flexibly on the normalization issue and in the end a formulation acceptable to both sides would be found on this question, too.

AL-WAZZAN: SOVEREIGNTY WILL NOT BE ABANDONED

NC032226 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2220 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] President al-Jumayyil today followed up the [Lebanese-Israel] negotiations during his meeting in thepolitical operations room in the presence of Prime Minister al-Wazzan, Foreign Minister Salim and Ambassador Tuwayni.

After the meeting, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: As we had predicted, the negotiations are not as easy as some people think. This, however, does not mean that we are at a closed wall and the negotiations must not be like this, namely, before a closed wall, because we are the owners of a right and want to achieve our rights without conceding anything that affects our Lebanese sovereignty. We do not want to dispose of restrictions to our sovereignty to fall into other restrictions. [sentence as heard]

'BAD WEATHER' DELAYS SYRIAN DELEGATION TO NORTH

NC040654 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0545 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] The persons who have fled Tripoli, the news agencies, the various information media, and the security reports have all been unanimous on one heading to describe the town -- "Tripoli is in hell," or "the hell of Tripoli." The most violent and fiercest day the town has witnessed in the Sunni and 'Alawite conflict was yesterday. The shells did not spare any quarter, street, or hospital; likewise, were the casualties, which included armed men, peaceful citizens, men, women, children, and old people.

During the past 24 hours, the casualties, both dead and wounded, were counted to be about eight. However, no information or reports are available about the real field of battle, namely, Bab at-Tabbanah, Ba'l Muhsin and Al-Qubbah. The shells have fallen on the southern entrance to the Al-Ma'rad area, the port, the boulevard, the Al-Mi'atayn road, Khan as-Sabun, the As-Sayyadin area, Tal'at, ar-Rifa'iyah and Ash-Sha'rani.

Among the incidents taking place in Tripoli area: The Health Ministry (Orange Nasu) Hospital received direct hits, which resulted in the wounding of some visitors, patients and nurses. Shells also reached the central clinic in Az-Zahiriyah. The medical corps is particularly alarmed since the town is suffering from a lack of medicines, foodstuffs, and first aid services. Cases of hysteria andnervous disturbances have been recorded among some women, children, and the elderly.

In the meantime, the arrival of the Syrian delegation in Tripoli has been delayed on the pretext of bad weather.

'FIERCE CLASHES' RESUME IN TRIPOLI 4 JAN

NC040932 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0926 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Fierce clashes resumed in Tripoli at 1100 today. The sound of explosions is still being heard.

18 Dead, 40 Wounded

NC040739 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] The situation in Tripoli has been as follows according to the latest security information:

At around 1800 last night, the security situation erupted fiercely and artillery shells and rockets rained down on most of the town's quarters, including Az-Zahiriyah, Bab al-Hadid, the squares of An-Najmah, At-Tall, Al-Amirkan, Al-Mallulah and As-Suwaqah and the old markets. When night fell, a Syrian military delegation arrived in Tripoli to meet with the higher liaison committee and to discuss the measures that could be taken to stop the fighting.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan held a contact with his Syrian counterpart, 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, and conveyed to him the Lebanese Government's desire that there should be a security measure taken by the Syrian side that would help stop the hemorrhage in Tripoli.

Due to the fierceness of the clashes, it has not been possible to count the casualties and losses. However, initial reports indicated that 18 persons were killed and 40 wounded. Moreover, it has not been possible for the fire brigade or first aid men to reach the shelled areas to put out fires and treat the casualties.

ISRAELI-BACKED CEASE-FIRE REPORTED IN 'ALAYH

NC040730 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0545 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] There were no new incidents in the 'Alayh area last night. However, a state of caution prevailed while awaiting to see how long the socialists and communists would abide by the agreement announced at the end of a meeting held yesterday at the Israeli command headquarters in Duhur 'Alayh. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Lebanese forces and the socialists.

The agreement provides for a complete and comprehensive cease-fire and the opening of the Beirut-Damascus highway and the 'Aytat-'Alayh road and the removal of the armed manifestations. The Israeli side was entrusted with the implementation of the agreement as a first step toward a wider and more comprehensive agreement that would tackle the security problems in the district.

The reports received on the results of the clashes which took place yesterday on the 'Aytat-Qus al-Gharb axis and the abortive infiltration operation by the socialists and the communists confirm that the armed socialists and the attacking communists suffered 14 dead.

TISHRIN SCORES LACK OF ARAB SUPPORT FOR LEBANON

JN310721 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 31 Dec 82

[From the Press Review]

[Text] In its "Behind the News" column today, TISHRIN writes: The Khaldah-El-Khalisa [Qiryat Shemona] negotiations are a new stage in the history of the Arab-Zionist conflict. The Israeli enemy and its U.S. partner began these negotiations under the slogan of normalization. Meanwhile, the Lebanese side submitted the issue of Israeli withdrawal. The enemy aims at using normalization to turn Lebanon into a purely Zionist protectorate in which the components of sovereignty, Arab affiliation, and national identity would be lost.

While As-Sadat plunged into treason without any justification except that of treason itself, we see little Lebanon -- as represented by its legitimate authority -- trying hard to foil the schemes of the Israeli enemy and its U.S. partner and strongly confronting the conditions created by a usurping occupier who wants to consecrate its occupation, dismember the south, subdue a state, feed the sectarian wars, and destroy the Lebanese economy.

TISHRIN adds: Fraternal Lebanon is resisting the joint U.S.-Israeli pressure for normalization and subsequent capitulation. Meanwhile, the rulers of a large country such as Egypt are urging the Arabs to move toward normalization, that is, toward terminating the nation's pan-Arab existence all at once. From this perspective they are calling on the Palestinians to join the bandwagon of capitulation and to recognize Israel. Accordingly, we are seeing some Arab rulers rush to make friends with the strongest advocate of normalization, Husni Mubarak, As-Sadat's successor, in the name of restoring Egypt to the Arab fold. A regime such as that of Iraq shows no reluctance to express its readiness to immediately and unconditionally restore relations with Egypt, although this regime had previously rejected the UN Security Council's resolutions in part and parcel and had called for the full liberation of all Palestine.

As for Lebanon, it is receiving no real aid from these Arabs except verbal support, which is not even official. This support is merely expressed by the consciences of some journalists. This is the case because Lebanon -- as represented by President al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister al-Wazzan -- refused to discuss the subject of normalization and announced that it would only discuss the issue of a comprehensive Israeli withdrawal.

In conclusion, TISHRIN says: Before it is too late, the Arabs must learn from the current stage. They must realize that their strength comes only through their peoples and through the defense of their national cause, not through the relinquishment of this cause or subservience to the United States. The Arab rulers must learn from history, because the Arab people are not and never will be a herd of cattle.

Syria's national stand today is a true translation of the will of the Arab people everywhere. The Arab masses cannot remain silent when a knife is being held at the throat of the Arab nation. The first Arab duty requires extending support to Lebanon in confronting the invaders and their schemes with deeds, not with words. It also requires backing up Syria's steadfastness. This is the first step on a long, difficult road that will eventually lead to the victory of Arab rights.

KATYUSHA LAUNCHERS FOUND NEAR ISRAELI BORDER

TA031337 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1331 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Last Friday, 31 December, in searches carried out by IDF forces in the region of the village of Majdal Silm, 7 km west of Ramim, five Katyusha launchers were found aimed at the Galilee panhandle. The IDF spokesman reports that the launchers were dismantled without any damage being caused. IDF forces have begun an investigation.

Aimed at Foiling Talks

TA031616 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Katyusha launchers found west of Manara were apparently aimed at foiling the Israeli-Lebanese talks held last Thursday in Qiryat Shemona. This estimation was voiced by our military correspondent, Shmu'el Tal, who reports that Qiryat Shemona lay within the range of those Katyushas.

The five launchers found last Friday were mobile Grad rocket launchers, and they were dismantled without causing any damage. They were discovered in the village of Majdal Silm, and our correspondent says that it is a well-known fact that its inhabitants had previously collaborated with the PLO. He adds furthermore that there may still be some terrorist pockets in the area, and at any rate means of warfare could still be found there. The Katyushas were found in the area under the Ghanaian UNIFIL unit's zone. The UNIFIL spokesman told our correspondent Hayim Hecht that in anticipation of the talks in Qiryat Shemona, the IDF has stepped up its presence in the area so that now it is difficult to tell who is responsible for security in the area. He added that his soldiers are not permitted to carry out investigations in connection with finding terrorists. However, security sources have told our correspondent that the check-points and the roadblocks erected by the UNIFIL soldiers could not have missed attempts to transfer these Katyushas.

More Launchers Found

TA040533 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Four more Katyusha launchers have been found in southern Lebanon aimed at a major IDF base in southern Lebanon, the HA'ARETZ military correspondent has reported. Earlier, the discovery of five launchers aimed at Qiryat Shemona was reported. The IDF regards the positioning of the missiles with gravity, although it is thought that terrorist reorganization is not involved, but rather the death throes of cells that have remained in the villages near the border. The nine launchers found in the north were meant to be used during the talks in Qiryat Shemona, or on Saturday, the 18th anniversary of the start of Fatah's activity. The IDF has extensively searched the area over the past 3 days, and has questioned some of the villages' inhabitants.

Not Sign of PLO Resurgence

TA040621 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] IDF forces in southern Lebanon are continuing an extensive operation aimed at preventing terrorist squads from carrying out a showy attack during the talks with Lebanon. During the last week, IDF forces have found nine Katyusha launchers which were aimed at Qiryat Shemona and an IDF base in southern Lebanon.

Our northern correspondent Hayim Hecht reports:

Toward the opening of the talks in Khaldah and Qiryat Shemona it was clear that the terrorists would try to make a spectacular attack to prove that they still constitute a force in the area. Involved are several hundred terrorists dispersed in small cells throughout all of southern Lebanon. These terrorist cells have no main headquarters, and there is almost no connection among them. However, it is known that in recent weeks operational instructions have been received in southern Lebanon from terrorist headquarters in Europe and North Africa. Also, it is known that ample funds are flowing into southern Lebanon from European sources, funds intended to encourage the terrorst cells' activity.

In recent weeks, the terrorists have also tried to act through agents who have encouraged radical Druze factions in the Ash-Shuf mountains to initiate shooting incidents. Last month, IDF forces in southern Lebanon arrested several dozen terrorists. A number of former Ansar detainees stands out among those arrested, that is, terrorists who were arrested in the past, were imprisoned in Ansar and who resumed activity.

The nine launchers found over the past several days did not surprise the IDF commanders responsible for security in southern Lebanon. They stressed that these attempts to carry out attacks should not be regarded as a sign of the PLO's recovery and its again becoming a significant factor in the area.

SYRIANS REPORTEDLY BUILDING SAM-5 BASES IN SYRIA

TA040946 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Israel has learned that deep inside Syrian territory, the Syrians are building two surface-to-air missile bases, the IDF spokesman reported. The reports say that the bases will be used for SAM-5 surface-to-air missile batteries. The bases are not yet manned, and the IDF is continuing to follow their developments, as it has done regarding missile batteries in the past. Our correspondent notes that the Soviet SAM-5 missile is one of the most modern, and that it has a long range. Its main new feature is that each missile is equipped with independent fire control, instead of central control for all of the battery, like that of other antiaircraft missiles.

Further Details

TA041027 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0941 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Our military correspondent Hayim Ravya notes that the new Syrian SAM-5's range is about 200 km. Ravya now brings further details.

[Ravya -- live] As stated the SAM-5 missile has a range of about 200 km. The launching sites and dugouts have been built deep in Syrian territory, and two launching bases are involved. The IDF spokesman's announcement, as stated, says that the sites are unmanned.

The SAM-5 is considered a strategic surface-to-air missile. As far as is known, in its capacity as such, it lacks mobility. It is used against high-flying planes only, up to an altitude of 100,000 feet, or about 30 km, and was in fact originally designed to provide a response to the U.S. B-52 strategic bombers. This is one of the missiles that have never been supplied to a country outside the Soviet Union's borders. As far as is known, it has not even been supplied to its East European satellites.

The Russians have been keeping this system secret because of its strategic character and, as a result, the West possesses no precise information on its operation. It is known that the missile was operational in the Soviet Union in 1975, and possibly earlier.

From deep in Syrian territory, according to the data about the missile's range -- as stated, some 200 km, or about 240 km according to a different version -- the SAM-5 covers most of Lebanon's airspace, and in fact all of it, except for a small area. It also covers the Galilee panhandle, and the northern Golan Heights, and all this, we recall, from deep inside Syria. The significance for Israel is self-evident. First, with respect to the air force's reconnaissance flights over Lebanon, the country's entire airspace will be under the missiles' control, so, as least, theoretically, those with their finger on the button will press it and launch a missile.

In conclusion, we can say that the SAM-5 is a two-stage missile, large and awkward, and some 15 meters long.

SHAMIR INSISTS ON NORMALIZATION WITH LEBANON

TA031234 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1227 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Shamir has told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that Israel will not give up its demands [derishoteha] on the issue of normalization with Lebanon. He noted that the term for normalization used in the talks is a semantic matter only and that Israel will not give up talks intended to reach normal relations with Lebanon.

SHAMIR REMARKS ON PLO CONTACTS, HUSAYN, TALKS

TA031217 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1156 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that the meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee has ended:

[Schiffer -- live] There are full details now about this meeting with the foreign minister. Foreign Minister Shamir confirmed, indirectly, that Israel is holding direct contacts with the PLO for the release of the captives held by this organization. In answer to questions by committee members, Shamir said: We are treating this issue according to Jewish tradition; we are not tied down to any procedure. Nevertheless, the foreign minister refused to divulge details about the negotiations, saying that some of the reports on this issue were inaccurate. As long as there are no real results, I will not announce a thing, Shamir said.

As for the talks conducted in Khaldah in Lebanon today, the foreign minister said that the first reports reaching him today indicate that Lebanon is showing readiness to meet Israel halfway on the normalization issue and that the intensive contacts on this issue are continuing now.

In answer to a question by MK Shim'on Peres, who heard that Syria has lately received very modern arms from the Soviet Union, arms which have not been exported outside the Soviet Union before, and that there is the possibility of Soviet teams manning these arms as well as a Soviet promise that the fate of the Lebanese Al-Biqa' will be the same as Syria's, Shamir said: We are examining this issue of Soviet arms supply to Syria. This matter is worrisome.

Shamir also reported on his trip to South America, noting the fact that nowhere there were Israel's arms sales discussed with him and the only place where this issue is discussed is Israel.

Shamir also reported about the briefing by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Nicholas Veliotes about the talks conducted with Husayn in the United States. According to this briefing, there is no immediate tendency on Husayn's part at the moment to join the peace process. The PLO is trying to increase its foothold [ahizato] in Jordan but the Jordanian authorities are preventing this. The U.S. Administration, the foreign minister said, is sympathetically treating Jordan's requests for arms, including improved Hawk missile batteries.

Further Details

TA031525 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said that the U.S. assistant secretary of state told him that King Husayn of Jordan did not intend to join the peace process in the near future. In remarks he made to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Minister Shamir said that the U.S. Administration had a sympathetic attitude toward Jordan's arms requests and, in this context, the supply of improved Hawk missile batteries. However, the administration was still opposed to selling F-16's to Jordan. The foreign minister said that Israel was preparing itself for a campaign of persuasion in the United States against the supply of the arms to Jordan.

As for the talks with Lebanon, Minister Shamir said that Israel was not accusing the United States of sabotaging the talks with Lebanon. We disagree with the Americans on several issues, but we maintain regular contacts with them, Shamir said.

PRESIDENT NAVON DEPARTS FOR UNITED STATES

TA040559 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] President Yitzhaq Navon and his wife left last night for the United States for a visit during which they will meet with President Reagan at the White House. A parting ceremony was held at the airport with the participation of the Knesset speaker, the prime minister, ministers, the chairman of the Labor Party and the U.S. ambassador to Israel. The president and his wife will stay in the United States for about 2 weeks. Navon will also meet with the UN secretary general.

HA'ARETZ COMMENTS ON SIGNALS TO DAMASCUS

TA031343 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 3 Jan 83 p 7

[Commentary by A. Schweitzer: "Friends in Jerusalem"]

[Text] The anti-Syrian kosher conduct of our most honorable prime minister and his ministers in the public's mind is beyond the shadow of the doubt. However, in view of the direction which the negotiations with Lebanon are following, the thought now coming to mind is that Mr Begin and his colleagues do not know what they want or may, in fact, want to signal to Damascus that Syria has friends in Jerusalem. This is not the only or first signal either.

In the commotion accompanying the opening of the military moves in Lebanon everyone accused the prime minister and the defense minister in particular of actually aiming to settle accounts with Syria: Indeed, if the war had been conducted to guarantee Israel's peace this is the way Israel should have acted. In reality, Israel was very cautious in fighting the Syrians and the very fact that the destruction of Syria's aerial system was not followed by the local step of dealing a deadly, lasting blow to the Syrian land forces indicates a strategic ignorance or an idea behind the political thought. And where will we be if we accuse the strategists of the Israeli war machinery of being strategically ignorant?

Moreover, not only did we refrain from settling accounts with the main Syrian force -- that stationed on both sides of the border in the east -- but instead of continuing the advance northward in order to push back the rest of the occupying force (and the rest of the terrorists) from Lebanon the IDF surrounded Beirut in order to grind down the city, the capital of that country with which Israel wants to sign peace.

Whoever wants an additional argument in favor of the hypothesis that Jerusalem is waving to Damascus with some sort of affection should look at the direction into which Israel is leading the negotiations aimed at materializing the achievements of the Peace for Galilee campaign. What was supposed to be a campaign to strengthen our security, namely, the removal of the enemy from the border area and the defeat of its forces so that it will not endanger the north again, has now turned into a race for a formal agreement with a country that has never endangered us (Lebanese apparently kill only one another, not foreigners). The removal of the Syrians, mentioned in the negotiations' agenda under the title of "The Withdrawal of Foreign Forces," has not only turned into a secondary issue in the eyes of the Israeli delegation's guides, but also into an undesireable clause. Proof of this is inherent in the fact that efforts are concentrating on the formulation of the normalization issue even at the risk of destroying the negotiations.

If somebody asks what logic there is to things, then the hypothetical reply is twofold: There is nothing Begin and his followers fear more than a hug from King Husayn which will, in their opinion, cost them the ownership of the West Bank and Gaza. Husayn's archenemy in the Arab world is sitting in Damascus. One should take note of the Middle Eastern rule of the enemy of my enemy is my friend: Hence, the merciful treatment of the one who was only recently described as a murderous enemy whose skull must be crushed. And, in order to close the circle of suspicions, let us suspect the kosher anti-Soviet persons, Begin and Sharon, with winking at Moscow. Whoever cares about Damascus sends the Soviet Union friendly signals, the credibility of which only increase if they are accompanied by repeated verbal stings and outbursts at the United States.

All of this is hypothetical musing, but is still logical, and thus strongly smacks of adventurism. The alternative is not very gladdening: The negotiations between the Israeli and Lebanese representatives points to pitiable confusion which has taken hold of the Israeli leading statement.

MA'ARIV ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH HUSAYN, LEBANON

TA031417 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 3 Jan 83 p 5

[Commentary by Moshe Zak: "Nevertheless: There is a Chance of an Agreement With Lebanon"]

[Text] Professor William Quandt, formerly President Carter's adviser on Middle East affairs in the National Security Council and one of the participants at Camp David, was in Tel Aviv last night.

He came after a tour of Lebanon, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Egypt, and he made the following two predictions: that Husayn would soon announce his joining the autonomy talks, on the condition that Israel freeze settlement during the negotiations, and that an Israeli-Lebanese agreement would be signed and, apart from security arrangements, would include certain components of normalization between the two countries.

Husayn's condition, according to Quandt, would present the Begin government with enormous difficulties, since Husayn would also get the PLO's approval for this step. In his view, it would be difficult for the Israeli Government to say "no" to a resumption of the talks. And indeed, Israel does not have to pronounce its "no" bitingly. It can say "no" in a sophisticated manner, unforeseen by the former U.S. adviser: Israel can set the precondition that it will only enter talks if they allow for the possibility of a peace agreement with Jordan on the basis of Camp David. As Quandt foresees, and as all the experts say, Husayn will rely in his announcement only on the Reagan plan and the Fes plan, without reference to the Camp David accords.

Jordan's evasion of Camp David as a basis leaves Israel ample room for maneuvering without its having to say "no" directly to a freeze on settlements for the period of negotations only.

In contrast to the limited chance of negotiations opening between Israel and Jordan, Quandt expects an agreement soon between Israel and Lebanon with "a certain amount of normalization." This is because there are influential people in both countries who want that, Professor Quandt said after holding talks in Beirut with all the elements of the government. Indeed, there are still difficulties in the formulation of the agreement, and even in the formulation of the agenda. However, a settlement is in the two countries' interest.

These are clear and simple words. Nevertheless, there are those among us who still doubt the chance of implementing the Israeli-Lebanese "working paper", which must serve as a basis for negotiations and guide for those conducting the negotiations, and this is not yet a signed agreement.

Those casting doubt on the chances of establishing good neighborly relations with open borders for trade and tourism base themselves on the public statements of several Lebanese Government figures who reject totally the possibility of an agreement with Israel. However, they do not take into account the fear harbored by President al-Jumayyil's associates in view of the various pronouncements by Israeli Government ministers about a unilateral withdrawal from the Ash-Shuf mountains. They also fear developments in the area that are liable to cause an Israeli withdrawal to the Litani before the achievement of an overall settlement on the pullback of all the foreign troops from Lebanon.

This gloomy prediction that perhaps Israel will hightail it out of the Ash-Shuf mountains or take unilateral steps in Lebanon that will not help the Lebanese president fortify his government is what is guiding the Lebanese delegation to the talks in Khaldah and Qiryat Shemona. It is what underlays the "working paper" that was drafted jointly by Lebanese and Israeli representatives. The "working paper" consists of general guidelines, and not sections of an agreement. Each side in the negotiations knows the direction they want to take although both sides have left themselves maneuvering room for formulations as the political conditions in the two countries conducting the negotiations require.

In truth, even the Americans understand that if Israel was to unilaterally withdraw from Lebanon without an agreement it would weaken their bargaining power with the Syrians and the PLO over the removal of all the foreign troops from Lebanon. Similarly, the Israeli siege of Beirut helped the Americans complete the negotiations over the evacuation of the PLO and the Syrian Army from the Lebanese capital. The Americans wanted the Israeli pressure so much so that when a report was published saying that President Reagan had received a promise from the Israeli prime minister that Israel would not enter Beirut, the White House spokesman hastened to deny the report in order not to remove the "Israeli threat" with the help of which U.S. diplomacy was trying to remove the PLO and the Syrians from Beirut, since only after their removal was the election of the new president and the effort to reestablish the central government in the torn country made possible.

Now too the Americans and President al-Jumayyil want to use the Israeli card to buttress the central government in Lebanon. This is because, despite the president's election and the existence of a government coalition in Lebanon, the civil war is still going on and most of the country is still controlled by Syria.

Al-Jumayyil has no other way of convincing Syria to withdraw from Lebanon and let him rule his country other than an agreement with Israel. The agreement with Israel balances the various pressures under which the Lebanese president is laboring. The temporary Israeli presence affords him the opportunity of making Lebanon neutral, which also contains a great opportunity for economic flourishing.

These are the objective conditions bringing Lebanon to the negotiating table with Israel, and they are also what constitutes the basis for the chance of an agreement about the terms of good-neighborly relations and normal relations in trade and tourism.

The question is only one of wording -- what to call the normalization that will usher in more normalization than did the normalization agreement with Egypt.

Therefore, the argument at yesterday's Cabinet session about the Israeli presence in the Ash-Shuf mountains did not hurt the Israeli-Lebanese negotiations either. On the contrary, it might help press the Lebanese by telling them that unless they reach an agreement they cannot coordinate positions with us. The irregular remarks voiced at the Cabinet session can counterbalance the irregular remarks made by the Lebanese Government against an agreement with Israel. It is clear to President al-Jumayyil and to the Americans that any attempt they make to submit to Shafiq al-Wazzan's restrictions on Israeli-Lebanese relations that will prevent Israel from deriving full benefit from the state of nonbelligerence and open borders between the two countries will arouse in Israel increasing reservations about the very presence of Israel in Lebanon's sensitive areas.

And then they are liable to lose their bargaining card with the Syrian president for getting him to remove his yoke from Lebanon.

This is Israel's strong card at the talks in Khaldah today, that progress will also be achieved in them. And this is the basis for the optimism that even an impartial observer like Professor William Quandt feels that there will be an agreement between Israel and Lebanon with security arrangements and "a certain amount of normalization."

DAVAR ON JORDAN'S HUSAYN IN NEGOTIATIONS

TA021150 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 2 Jan 83 p 7

[Commentary by Yehoshu'a Tadmor: "Husayn Got 10 Months Grace"]

[Text] Two weeks have passed since Husayn visited Washington and returned to Amman, yet only just now are the lines of agreement and disagreement between him and the U.S. Administration beginning to emerge. What is clear now is that the administration was not overly disappointed. It knew in advance, before Husayn's arrival, that the Jordanian king was not bringing with him any mandate from the PLO, apart from a letter from 'Arafat to Reagan, and that Husayn is not authorized to conduct negotiations with President Reagan, and certainly not to join an Israeli-Egyptian negotiation. Husayn's explanations about the internal and external forces working on Jordan only made it clear to the Americans that even if Husayn wants very much to participate in the negotiations his hands will still be tied.

The Americans -- and Israeli experts agree with them -- recognize that Husayn has gone a long way from the Rabat summit to the Fes summit, which totally disqualified him from any negotiations on the Palestinian subject and crowned the PLO as their only spokesman until today. Today Husayn is almost ready to hold negotiations but he finds it hard to build the political-organizational infrastructure that will support him in the West Bank and the pan-Arabic arena.

Contrary to the first reports that the Americans had granted Husayn a few weeks in which to decide, it seems now that they have given him a time period of about 10 months in which to organize and decide whether to be a partner to the talks or not. For the impatient Reagan, this is a long time. This time span should enable Husayn to build the infrastructure of support to his moves. If he does not make good use of this time, it will be as if the Americans have removed the umbrella from over his head.

The tying of the political moves with the readiness to increase arms sales to Jordan on the Congress' podium is another pressure means used by the Americans on Husayn. The method of the "stick and the carrot," as one U.S. commentator put it.

Of course, Husayn was received nicely at the White House. It is reasonable to assume that he was given promises about the future of the negotiations, the West Bank and even about the stand taken by the Americans on the federation plan, "Palestine" and so on. Husayn will not begin negotiations without first being promised U.S. support on those questions that are vital to his rule. It is reasonable to assume that Husayn asked in Washington what will happen if he does negotiate and the leaders of the extreme Palestinian organizations then demand that the Syrians attack Jordan -- not a very far-fetched possibility.

It is difficult to believe that the Americans have committed themselves to anything at this stage, but from our experience we know that when vital U.S. interests require intervention, they are very capable of involving Israel, and such things have happened before. It is possible, then, that the President, or one of his aides, promised Husayn something along this line and left us the opportunity to "donate" our share, under the assumption that the Jordanian Army itself, which today is a large army, will play a key role in stopping the Syrians when the time comes.

The official Jordanian stand until now was that Jordan will not take part in the talks unless two main conditions are fulfilled: there is pan-Arabic support and unequivocal PLO agreement, which would enable the participation of this organization in the negotiations. These two conditions were not filled and it seems as if Husayn is only at the beginning of the process, but not quite. Almost all the Arab countries, and parts of the PLO, including Yasir 'Arafat and his aides, favor negotiations, albeit according to their conditions, not according to the Reagan plan conditions. But this too is an achievement.

In the talks with Husayn, official Washington, even the President, showed more optimism than Husayn himself. They already see the light at the end of the tunnel and believe it is possible to persuade 'Arafat and the rest to the Arab leaders, even if it will take some time perhaps. But it is doubtful whether this persuasion will be based on the PLO plan without the "moderate" 'Arafat receiving his share: A promise of a Palestinian state even in the first stage, and then confederation, federation or any other acceptable plan.

Washington has quietly made another move: It ruled that no solution will be forced, but the PLO must be persuaded without being promised that its preconditions will be filled. Something will probably be given to it, but not all of its demands. Maybe this is the source of the reports about contacts between U.S. representatives and the PLO. In the atmosphere now prevailing in Washington, when everybody is hoping for negotiations, this is quite possible and such beginnings have happened in the past. Anyway, when the Americans say again and again that there will be a breakthrough with Husayn, with the support of various Palestinian elements, it should not be taken lightly. Sometimes they know better than us, all the more so when they are also working in this direction on the spot and in the various capitals.

How will the Palestinians and the PLO be represented in those talks? This might be the key question because the PLO will not agree to the talks if it is not represented, even indirectly, in them. Some see the solution in representation by Milhim and Al-Qawasimi the deported mayors of Hebron and Halhul, who spent some weeks in Washington recently and held hours-long, open talks with White House heads. If you wish, there is the formula: To involve Palestinians, patriotic even by the PLO's standards, who are not from its leadership, but who are accepted by it and by Washington and even by the handful of Israelis who have worked with them over the years and found them to be people with whom it is possible to sit at the table. There is no one better than them at the moment; and even if the Americans "draw" them and Husayn agrees and Israel hesitates, the suggestion will undoubtedly become half a fact. Even if they are not the exact representatives, someone similar will be found. In sum, we have not heard the last yet, not about Husayn's joining the talks, not about the Palestinians joining them and not about the stubborn U.S. efforts to reach a comprehensive solution.

MAJORITY AGAINST ALIGNMENT RETURN TO POWER

TA031431 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 3 Jan 83 p 3

[Text] The Alignment's status in the public continues to be low. The majority of the public gives negative signals regarding the Alignment's functioning and does not think it is suitable to get back control over the country. These are the findings of a PORI Institute nationwide public opinion poll conducted during the first half of December at the request of HA'ARETZ.

Of all those asked, 76.3 percent gave negative marks to the Alignment's functioning as the opposition, compared with 18 percent who gave its functioning a positive mark.

Of those interviewed in the poll, 61.2 percent said that the Alignment did not inspire confidence, compared with 33.5 percent who do trust the Alignment.

There were 57.6 percent who held the view that the Alignment was not currently suitable to return to power in the country compared with 24.3 percent who thought that the Alignment was suitable to return to power. Another 10 percent held the view that the Alignment might be able to return to power, but only under certain conditions, such as a solution to the interpersonal problems in the Alignment leadership and if the Alignment were to make a turn more to the right.

There were 50.7 percent who held the view that a government led by the Alignment would not be more successful in coping with the problems confronting the current government, compared with 26.3 percent who thought that an Alignment government would succeed more than a Likud government.

The solution appearing most reasonable to the majority of the public was the establishment of a national unity government composed of the two large parties, the Likud and the Alignment together. There were 66.8 percent who supported the establishment of a national unity government compared with 24.2 percent who were opposed to this.

Among those who support a national unity government there were more Likud than Alignment voters. There were 73 percent of Likud voters who supported a national unity government, compared with 53 percent of the Alignment voters. Only 20 percent of the Likud voters were opposed to a national unity government, compared with the opposition of 35 percent of the Alignment voters.

The poll covered a representative sample of 1,200 men and women who were given personal interviews throughout the country.

BRIEFS

POPULATION STATISTICS REPORTED -- Israel's population at the end of 1982 was 4,044,000 of whom 3,366,300 (83 per cent) were Jewish and 688,700 (17 per cent) were non-Jewish, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced yesterday. The population grew in 1982 by 67,500 (17 per cent), of whom 47,500 (1.4 per cent) were Jewish and 20,000 (3 per cent) non-Jewish. This includes the addition of 12,000 residents of the Golan Heights, which was annexed during the year. In 1981, the population grew by 1.4 percent, the Jewish population by 1.1 percent and the non-Jewish population by 2.8 per cent. There were 95,000 births and 26,500 deaths. The natural increase of Jews was 48,500 (72,500 births and 24,000 deaths) and of non-Jews 20,000 (22,500 births and 2,700 deaths). [all figures as published] [Text] [Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 3 Jan 83 p 3 TA]

ALGERIA

BENDJEDID ADDRESSES FINAL FLN SESSION

LD312224 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 31 Dec 82

[Excerpts] The FLN party Central Committee concluded its eighth session at 1300 today with an important directive speech by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the party.

The president began by noting the work which the leadership is doing, namely, holding meetings to follow up the implementation of the resolutions which were adopted at previous sessions and undergoing a comprehensive survey of the sectors for which the resolutions were adopted.

The president of the republic noted the prospects for the coming year and he recalled that two committees will be formed to prepare for the forthcoming party congress as outlined by the national charter and the decisions the Central Committee adopted and in light of experience and daily practice. The president said all issues which concern the homeland and the revolution will be raised always within the framework of the legal institutions of the country and in accordance with the constitution and the laws which define jurisdiction, whether pertaining to the government or the political leadership or the party congress. The decisions which are adopted should express the will of all the people and embody the principles of the revolution.

The president of the republic then touched on major international issues and the events in the world since the seventh session. In this connection, the president of the republic affirmed Algeria's attitude toward the issues which concern the struggle of the peoples for freedom and self-determination. He recalled Algeria's stand on the struggle of the Palestinian people and the Western Sahara issue and the issues which are connected with the independence of Namibia.

After touching on the most important issues relating to the meeting of the Arab summit and its results and Algeria's attitude, which was adopted after profound study and consultations with those concerned directly with the issues raised, the president pointed out some problems which absorb the Arab nation and the Islamic world, including the Iraqi-Iranian war. In connection with this issue, he expressed some cautious optimism. He also reaffirmed Algeria's resolve to continue its efforts to contribute toward achieving understanding and establishing peace.

The president noted Algeria's role and attitudes toward the OAU. He affirmed that the escalation of the U.S. onslaught could lead to some reactions, turning the African Continent into an arena of confrontation between the big powers, which would tend to threaten peace and security in the entire world. In this connection, the president of the republic recalled the role entrusted to Europe, whose peace is linked to the peace and security of the Mediterranean and the African Continent in particular.

The president of the republic talked at some length about the meetings he held with a number of leaders of some fraternal and friendly states, and also Algeria's efforts in OPEC and the hopes pinned on the coming Nonaligned meeting in India and the prospects which can be expected from fruitful cooperation between the southern states and also cooperation between the South and North on the basis of mutual respect of the choices and the interests of the South.

The president ended his speech, which lasted well over an hour, by expressing satisfaction with the efforts made by the conscientions workers in the outgoing year and he hopes that the efforts will continue to achieve all the aims through loyalty to the continuation of the revolution and the aspirations of the people.

The FLN Party Central Committee, during its eighth session held 19-31 December at the Palace of the Nations, approved the general policy resolution after listening to the directives of the president of the republic and the secretary general of the party. The resolution starts out by saying: Taking into consideration the intensive activity of the party structures and government in various basic, economic, social and cultural fields at domestic and foreign levels, the Central Committee places on record with satisfaction the activities of the FLN party in 1982 which concern in particular the political activity, ideological enlightenment, mobilization and conscription for accomplishing the national construction tasks and building the socialist society.

Concerning the role of the National People's Army, the resolution said that the Central Committee lauds the effective role played by the National People's Army, the successor of the National Liberation Army, in defending the inviolability of national soil and protecting the socialist gains of the revolution. It also praises the great efforts this army has been making as its contribution toward implementing the national development projects. After recalling that all these activities have contributed toward increased production and improving the standard of national income and the purchasing power of the citizens, the resolution praised the measures relating to raising the wages of a large section of the workers. It affirmed that improving the living standards of the citizen will remain linked to the individual and collective effort directed at self-discipline at work and increasing and improving production and controlling the (?march). The resolution pointed out that these results too are the fruit of the efforts of all and of coordination of the structures of the party and the state. It urged continuation of this strong precedent.

Concerning Algerian foreign policy, the resolution recalled Algeria's stands which proceed from firm principles and it added in this connection: The Central Committee lauds the positive results which were produced by the visit of the brother president of the republic and secretary general of the party to Belgium and by the summit meeting which brought him and the French president together -- a visit that reflects Algeria's keen desire to establish a (?positive) and fruitful cooperation within the framework of (?a regional and international) cooperation.

In view of the current tense situation and of what is happening in the Arab and African arena, which is being exposed to maneuvers and tensions which threaten the security and peace of the area, the Central Committee reaffirms Algeria's adherence to the policy of positive good-neighbourliness with its neighbors and noninterference in the domestic affairs of the nations of the area, which know well their own interests and are alone responsible for their choices. It draws attention to the fact that Algeria is an integral part of the nations of the area and is concerned with all that takes place in it, denounces all the maneuvers and military and nonmilitary alliances and also the provocative improvised and irresponsible actions which could threaten the security, stability, safety, gains and independence of the nations of the area.

The Central Committee reaffirmed that peace in the Middle East will not be established except when the Palestinian people recover their historical national and legitimate rights and establish their own independent state in their homeland Palestine.

It renewed Algeria's support for the struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO and support for the Lebanese people for restoring their full sovereignty and safeguarding their Arabism and the unity of their national soil. After it affirmed its support and backing for the struggle of the Saharan people, the Central Committee called on the two sides concerned -- Morocco and the Polisario Front -- to start direct negotiations. The Central Committee denounced the maneuvers aimed at splitting the OAU and it called for action to strengthen this organization for the sake of serving the higher interests of the peoples of the continent.

The Central Committee appealed to the two fraternal peoples of Iran and Iraq to work to resolve their conflict peacefully. It denounced the maneuvers of some of the Western liaison states against Namibia and it expressed Algeria's support for the struggle of the people of Namibia under SWAPO leadership, and the people of Southern Africa and the leadership of the African National Congress and Algeria's stand alongside all the nations which are struggling against colonialism and dictatorship.

In conclusion and after extending an appeal to all the living forces in the country to work toward making a greater effort to win the battle of national development, the Central Committee called on the Algerian people to be constantly mobilized and vigilant and to firmly oppose all the counterrevolutionary currents whatever slogan they hide behind and which work for the benefit of imperialism and reaction in order to harm the gains of the revolution and harm the security of the citizen and the stability of the country. The Central Committee renewed its absolute support for President Chadli Bendjedid in his constant work to embody the aims of the socialist revolution and fulfill the aspirations of the people's masses.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI NEW YEAR MESSAGE TO WORLD LEADERS

LD311910 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1720 GMT 31 Dec 82

[Text] Tripoli 31 Dec (JANA) -- The brother leader of the revolution has sent the following message to heads of states and governments on the occasion of Christmas and the New Year:

The peoples of this earth and probably the angels of heaven too are tired of repeating spurious greetings which have not changed for centuries, namely "Happy New Year."

All heads of state say this to each other, while each proceeds in his deeds to turn the New Year into a miserable and unfortunate year.

To this great night of 1983, the anniversary of the birth of Christ, peace be on Him, we are still repeating the same untruthful greetings. Could we have a moment of deep contemplation and re-all some of the verses of the holy Koran and the Old Testament and the New Testament, and say: "Help one another in righteousness and piety, but help not one another in sin and rancor." [verse from Koran]

Let us remember how Christ most strongly rebuked the populace for forgetting the word of God and following their own whim. He rebuked the sages for underming the law of God through their traditions. He said all that at the first religious exhortation he made in Jerusalem.

Since, at the dawning of 1983, we are without a Christ to rebuke those who forget God, the proud and the greedy, those of rotten culture and those who disobey the law of God, we have but to rebuke each other for our wrongdoings and to reprimand ourselves for our sins. We have to realize that we are very far from the teaching of Christ and very near to the teaching of Satan.

The superpowers and rich countries spend enormous amounts on manufacturing nuclear bombs, developing intercontinental missiles, space invasion programs and on propaganda and psychological warfare at a time when the peoples of the Earth are laboring under the burden of sickness, extreme hunger, malnutrition and the madness of high prices. These countries are actually led by Satan and their book is the theory of Malthus and not the sacred book. We need to reread the teachings of Christ, peace be on Him. We will find what He wanted to tell us. Hands off Palestine, the cradle of Christ, peace be on Him, and off all the oppressed, suppressed and colonized peoples.

The world is again in dire need of Christ today, and is also in dire need to turn away from the dancing places, bars and buffoonery on the night of every New Year, and to head for the temples to perform prayers, ask forgiveness and remember the law of God on this night at least.

Be aware that the vanity and error of the world is stronger than my outcry. I have not offered the world on this occasion anything but this word. However, the holy book says in its first sentence: In the beginning was the word.

[Signed] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi

SUDAN

NUMAYRI LEAVES FOR MEDICAL CHECKUP IN U.S.

JN011045 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 1 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 1 Jan (SUNA) -- President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, accompanied by his wife, left for the United States at 0930 this morning for a routine medical checkup.

NUMAYRI DELIVERS INDEPENDENCE DAY SPEECH 31 DEC

JN311812 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 31 Dec 82

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 31 Dec (SUNA) -- President Numayri today delivered a speech in Abu Dulayq, one of Khartoum's suburbs, on the 27th anniversary of Sudan's independence. The following is the text of the speech:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The Almighty says in His holy book: and remember Abraham said: "My Lord, make this a city of peace, and feed its people with fruits, such of them as believe in God and the last day."

Brother free revolutionaries, greetings, may peace and glory be yours on this day when glory and the vows of the victorious revolution embrace. Greetings to you on this day when you show potential and determination as well as willingness to preserve Sudan's independence and unity and to remain faithful to the pioneers and heroes of independence whose blood has colored the banners of independence, to the martyrs of the great revolution of Muhammad Ahmad al-Mahdi and to the revolution of 24 May as well as the heroes of the national movement who struggled against colonialist repression and brought about Sudan's independence. Thus Sudan was the first in Africa to have been liberated from the foreign colonialism and the first among the Third World countries to raise the banners of independence.

We commemorate the independence anniversary this year in Abu Dulayq which is an integral part of Khartoum directorate and which will host the SSU conference of Khartoum Directorate. By doing so we further confirm the destruction of the imagirary barrier between the city and the countryside, between the capital city and the other regions.

Your revolution, brothers, has started its march of construction and development. You know that this march began in the regions and later extended to the capital city. Therefore, it is not a coincidence that we begin a new march of construction in the national capital city. We begin this new march in the countryside around Khartoum where we will hold the SSU national conference. This march will continue, God willing.

From here, from great Abu Dulayq, I say with pride and confidence: Let us face facts. Let us admit that our consumption outstrips our production, that our imports outstrip our exports, that what is being stolen of our resources through smuggling outstrips our march. Let us admit that the social growth outstrips the economic growth, that our social aspirations outstrip our current potentials.

We say loud and clear that Sudan's fate is not commensurate with its capabilites. Our geographical position has forced us to become an oasis of stability sought by jobless refugees, an oasis from which Sudanese expertise leaks and goes to support the efforts of other brothers.

We say loud and clear that the value of our exports is not commensurate with the value of our imports. We have to say that what is needed in this regard is twice the size of our intrinsic production.

We say loud and clear that now is the time to drop the imaginary barrier differentiating between the duties of the state and those of the people, between the commitments of the government and those of the individuals because the people are the state and the government is the individuals. Therefore, brothers, I frankly announce from this spot, from Abu Dulayq to the entire Sudanese nation that the 25 May revolution which exploded through the people and for the people -- and after years of miraculous accomplishments, sacrifices, challenges and developments -- owns nothing but the arms of these people, their awareness and determination.

Who more than the Sudanese deserves to invest the resources of Sudan? Who more than the Sudanese themselves deserves to enjoy these resources? Therefore, brothers, we have opened the doors and we will continue to open them along with our hearts to Arab and foreign investments in Sudan. We have the integration with fraternal Egypt, which is a joint investment of the two countries' wealths. There are also individual Arab investments as well as other international aid to invest our resources. What after all that, does the Sudanese need so he can start to invest his own country's resources, so he can plant his own land and contribute to the reconstruction of his country, instead of investing in the field of real estate or investing his money abroad, rather than investing in his own land and homeland and among his own kinfold and for his own future.

Brothers, we have to defend on ourselves, to be proud and sure of ourselves and to control ourselves so we will not be tempted by rapid profit to employ our money in a land other than ours or to waste our efforts outside our country.

Brother free revolutionaries. We are on the threshold of the dawn where we will surmount any crisis. We will confront its complications and repercussions. Thanks be to God almighty, we are not only hopeful about the distant future, but we possess the power to tame the near future and attain our boundless objectives and airms.

In a few months, brothers, we will commence the building of the oil pipeline to transport Sudanese oil. It is the beginning of a wide-scale investment in this field. I say the beginning because the amount of oil that has thus far been discovered gives satisfaction. However, what is expected to be discovered in the future is promising, God willing. However, let me say and repeat here that oil will only constitute a tributary to the wealth, or rather a factor for investing an indispensable wealth: The Sudanese manpower and Sudan's resources represented by its agricultural and animal wealth.

Brothers, the independence, the anniversary of which we are celebrating today, was not a day on which the banner was raised; it is rather the day on which the will of the Sudanese nation took upon itself to safeguard its independence, to confirm its unity and to surmount the inherited backwardness that made it lag behind the wheel of time.

Our celebration today, brothers, is an opportunity to affirm our allegiance to the pioneers and heroes of independence and to continue along the course of our pioneers and heroes. Our celebration on independence day is also an opportunity to renew the pledge to past and future generations, to the generations which raised high the banner, and to continue the march of building a united Sudan crowned by prosperity created by its sons.

The celebration on Independence Day is a holiday because it represents the beginning of a new march in which the Sudanese generations will shoulder the responsibility of building Sudan, protecting it and asserting its unity. The great march of great nations is one of continuity, inspiration and sacrifice. Glory will be ours as long as we sacrifice for Sudan and as long as we raise the banner of a united self-sufficient, sovereign and cherished Sudan.

Brother free revolutionaries, our celebration of the independence anniversary this year in Abu Dulayq is simultaneous with the march of the Nile Valley peoples in Sudan and Egypt along the road of integration -- the integration for which generations have aspired.

Our generations and pioneers struggled until Sudan's independence was realized, despite the divergence of their methods. Yet, they agreed with unshaken faith that Sudan's independence is a support for Egypt's independence and that Egypt's independence is a shield that protects Sudan's independence. Our celebration today, brothers, is being held under the canopy of integration, which is an important example to be followed by the Arab nation.

Brother free revolutionaries. Sudan under the canopy of independence and revolution is a homeland for peace. On the domestic front, Sudan, despite years of bloody fighting and strife, managed to develop its human efforts toward building and progress.

Brothers, we are with fraternal Iraq to enable it to safeguard its safety, security and national unity. We are with Lebanon to enable it to liberate its land and confirm its unity. We are with the struggling Palestinian people to enable them to attain their legitimate rights. We are with the Arab nation and the African Continent until their land and will are liberated from the oppression of the usurper and aggressor.

Since more time was needed to prepare for the convening of the national congress, it was decided to postpone it from 29 January to 26 February, God willing. The congress will last until 4 March. Therefore, brothers I found it an opportunity for me to go abroad and undergo routine medical checks within the next few days.

VICE PRESIDENT AT-TAYYIB ON ECONOMIC SITUATION

EA032028 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib, first vice president of the republic, yesterday evening issued an important statement on important questions linked to alleviating the suffering of citizens in various areas of life. Here is a full recording of his statement:

[Begin recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Brother citizens, God's salutation, peace and blessings be upon you all.

Brothers, you are aware that we are experiencing difficult economic conditions, like other countries in the world, including the rich ones. Although our country is experiencing this international economic crisis and is affected by it at the present moment, we, however -- God be praised -- possess the ability to overcome it, relying, after God, on the determination and strength of our people and our country's rich resources which need no more than exertion accompanied by endurance to yield prosperity and plenty.

Brothers, although we, like others are suffering from obvious and pressing economic problems, we are not confronting them with inaction and paralysis, because the present development process now will move faster through the efforts of the Sudanese first, and second with help from friends and brothers who have faith in this country and its potential, in the form of investment.

Brother citizens, some of the economic conditions imposed on us due to the international economic crisis necessitated stringent measures, including adjustment of the exchange rate of the Sudanese pound. The decision has positive aspects, such as improving production, increasing the volume of exports and bridging the gap between imports and exports; but it also has its negative aspects which may affect the workers' sector. For this reason [words indistinct] to issue this statement in response to the directive of the president of the republic to work to alleviate its effects and cushion its complications. One of the decisions made ensures that the adjustment of the pound exchange rate should not affect the prices of the basic commodities consumed by our people. There should be no increases in the prices of wheat, flour, bread, sugar and medicines. At the same time workers' wages should be increased to enable them to face any adverse effects resulting from the adjustment of the value of the pound. I am pleased and happy to announce to you the decisions, which are as follows:

1. Increase of salary at beginning of appointment on scale 18 of the salary scale from 336 to 400 pounds per annum. This increase amounts to 20 percent.

2. Raising the minimum personal income tax allowance from (?1,020) pounds to (?1,200) pounds [words indistinct].

3. Overtime earnings and allowances to be exempted from income tax.

4. [passage indistinct]

5. It has been decided to start a system of giving monetary grants to workers twice a year, the first in January and the second in July. The system will apply from the present month of January. The grants will be considered in proportion to the salaries of the workers so that there is a balance between the incomes and their equitability, that is, higher grants will be given to those of lower and middle incomes.

KENYA

MOI DELIVERS NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE TO NATION

EA311904 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 31 Dec 82

[Text] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi has wished all Kenyans a happy, peaceful, and successful 1983. The president, who was addressing the nation from State House, Nakuru, this evening also thanked and commended all Kenyans, KANU leaders, the armed forces, and the police for their loyalty to him during the year ending today. President Moi highly commended farmers for producing enough foodstuffs for the country and noted with satisfaction that it was enough for the coming year. He also thanked God for making the climate conducive to the growing of the foodstuffs. President Moi called on leaders and civil servants to mend their ways by following the Nayayo philosophy. He urged them to aim at assisting each other and therefore serve the public in a better way. He advised them to aim at improving the welfare of the people.

Turning to the OAU, President Moi, who is its chairman, expressed the hope that the problems affecting the continental body would be solved in its future meetings. He noted with concern that the enemies of Africa did not want Africans to unite and said that Africans should not accept to be divided. He pointed out that ideologies from other countries will not assist Africa in solving her problems. He called on the South African regime to solve the Namibian problem without hatred and pointed out that fighting is not going to solve the problem. He expressed the hope that solution to the Namibian problem will be found soon. He advised wananchi [citizens] to enroll as KANU members so that they can vote during the forthcoming grassroots elections. On voting, he asked wananchi to vote for the right people.

TANZANIA

NYERERE DELIVERS NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE TO NATION

EA312112 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1711 GMT 31 Dec 82

[New Year's message to the nation by President Julius Nyerere -- live]

[Excerpts] Fellow countrymen, first of all I would like to wish you all blessings and prosperity in the new year. The year that is now ending has been a difficult year for us all, peasants and workers, for our country and for the whole world. In spite of all these problems, however, we Tanzanians managed to get through this year with the same unity and a new and very firm spirit for bringing about our development on the basis of self-reliance. What we need now is to continue with our unity and the same spirit in the new year. In October, I spoke for 4 hours explaining the causes of our present problems and the steps which we would have liked to take to confront these problems. I explained that four factors beyond our control have led to our present situation, namely the increase in the prices of goods we import from foreign countries and the drop in the prices of our crops, the breakup of the East African Community, Idi Amin's war and continued poor harvests. I also explained at length our own mistakes which increased our problems and the need to correct these mistakes. The new year of 1983 must be a year in which we begin to correct our past mistakes, a year in which we speed up our adjustments so that our economy harmonizes with the bad situation resulting from events in foreign countries which we ourselves have no power to change. Our aim will be to make our expenditure match our revenue at as high a level as possible and safeguard our ability to recommence development steps later on.

We will be compelled to increase revenue as rapidly as possible, but at the moment we must reduce our expenditure to match our present revenue. We will also be compelled to ensure that our basic services of health, education, clean water and so on are maintained while importance is attached to giving everyone of us enough food, clothing and shelter.

As I said in October, our first task is to endeavor not to sink under our problems but maintain our health and educational services. But actions for safeguarding these aims must begin now because, since the party congress ended, the government, for its part, has been considering and planning various things which we, the nation and government can do in order to prevent our economy from sinking further.

As I warned you earlier, the steps which we will be compelled to take will not be very pleasant for our countrymen, or very simple for the government. Still these steps must be taken. You will have heard news of new taxes which will begin tomorrow, 1 January 1983. The taxes will be debated in the forthcoming session of parliament. At the moment they must be paid by each one of us. The new taxes are expected to increase the governments revenues by the amount of 800 million shillings within the next 6 months. This is to say that instead of people having this amount of money for spending on buying private things, now the people of Tanzania will spend this money on maintaining our important public services. In order to slightly reduce the pain, these taxes are being levied on things nearly all of which are not important or goods which the people have shown themselves ready to pay higher prices for so long as they are obtainable. Therefore the new taxes will hurt smokers or beer drinkers, and particularly owners of private vehicles. A much smaller new tax has been levied on cement, clothing and sugar. Trade licence fees have also been increased and taxes of agencies, businessmen consultants and representatives of foreign companies have been increased by greater rates. Stamp duty has been increased and stamps will begin to be used again on receipts. It has become necessary to impose these additional taxes because the government has not been getting enough money from other types of taxes which were estimated in the expenditure for 1982-83. This is one of the results of the shortage of foreign exchange which, by reducing the goods which we manufacture in our industries, also reduces government revenue from sales tax.

The party directed the government to safeguard our independence by bringing our expenditure more in line with our revenue and at the same time endeavouring to safeguard our basic services. The journey will be difficult and it is still possible that events in foreign countries, which are beyond our control, could make our journey longer and even more difficult. The steps pronounced today are just a beginning of the difficult decisions we will be compelled to make frequently. Through these steps, however, we can and will defend the independence of our country and the freedom of Tanzania to manage its own affairs.

We must be a nation which our friends and enemies realize neither fears nor hesitates to wage a struggle that is necessary for the defense of our rights and dignity. We must never agree to acquire habits contrary to this quality. We will be despised. I believe that we have the determination and the boldness to implement all that is necessary and ultimately will be able to restart our journey toward a better life for every one of us. I once again wish you God's blessings in our activities of the new year.

CONGO

CUBAN DELEGATION ARRIVES IN BRAZZAVILLE 31 DEC

AB311630 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 31 Dec 82

[Text] A Cuban delegation led by Juan Almeida, chairman of the Control and Revisions Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and vice president of the Council of State, arrived in our capital this morning. During its stay in our country, the delegation will hold talks with various Congolese officials.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANK TO BE CREATED

AB301504 Paris AFP in French 1427 GMT 30 Dec 82

[Text] Brazzaville, 30 Dec (AFP) -- Major Florent Tsiba, minister of information, announced on Thursday that the Congolese Council of Ministers has decided to create the Congolese International Development Bank (BIDC). The council, which met on Thursday under the chairmanship of head of state Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso, also examined the file on the creation of new banking establishments, the minister added.

A file on the fiscal arrangements contained in an agreement between Congo and the "Elf Aquitaine" company on the search for uranium, which was presented by the Ministry of Mines and Energy, was also examined.

GABON

BONGO SAYS AUSTERITY PROGRAM SHOULD BE CONTINUED

AB011350 Libreville Africa No 1 in French 0630 GMT 1 Jan 83

[Text] In Gabon, President Omar Bongo extended New Year's wishes to his countrymen in a televised message. He began by painting a rather gloomy picture of the international economic situation, calling on the big powers to show more solidarity with the developing countries. He went on to express satisfaction with the results obtained in the economic and social fields, even though much remains to be done. The year 1982 was a fortunate year because of Gabon's political stability and the unity of its people [words indistinct] harmonious economic development and well-being for all. Let us listen to the Gabonese president.

[Begin recording] Gabon, unlike many developing countries, did not experience economic stagnation and social disturbances. It succeeded in adapting its action to the constraints of the moment and in coping with the difficulties in an orderly and serene manner. The sacrifices dictated by the austerity policy adopted several years ago, and which should be continued, were borne courageously, and I wish to stress once again that this austerity policy should be continued. [end recording]

Omar Bongo [words indistinct] in 1983, perseverance in action for it is only at this price that the country can achieve a better future.

[Begin Bongo recording] Persevere with discipline, dignity and honor, persevere while our redoubling efforts and dynamism to maintain without fail [words indistinct] the unity of all Gabonese, in other words, national unity. We should also persevere in our ambitions, and we should persevere in exercising greater vigilance [words indistinct] what can divide us and put us against one another, such as tribal rivalries, partisan ambitions, and exaggerated individualsim, for example. [end recording]

ANGOLA

PAPER SAY 300 KILLED IN OPERATION AGAINST UNITA

AB031624 Paris AFP in French 1544 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Luanda, 3 Jan (AFP) -- The Angolan Army killed 300 people and held 67 others prisoners during a military offensive launched against UNITA in December in southeast Angola, the daily paper JORNAL DE ANGOLA reported on Monday.

The paper, quoting the New Year's message of Angolan Defense Minister Colonel Maria Tonha "Pedale," said that the operation was carried out by the 16th Brigade of the Cuando-Cubango Province against the "puppet bandits who try to infiltrate into the north of the country through this region."

The Cuando-Cubango Province is used by UNITA guerrillas -- led by Jonas Savimbi -- as a support base for operations into Bie and Huambo Provinces in the center of the country, observers in Luanda believe.

UNITA TO EXTEND STRUGGLE THROUGHOUT COUNTRY

MB031610 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] The UNITA movement has announced that it intends to extend its struggle against the Marxist regime in Luanda to all parts of Angola by the middle of the year. Its deputy secretary for foreign affairs, Mr (Tito Chikundi), said in a radio interview that the logistical problems associated with an offensive of this magnitude can be overcome. UNITA's forces are already operating in northern Angola and in areas along the frontier between Zaire and Angola. The movement's centre of operations will remain in southern Angola, from where its activities will be gradually extended to the north.

The FNLA movement, which fought government forces in northern Angola from bases in Zaire, collapsed some time ago. A number of insurgent groups are active against Luanda's army and its Cuban allies in the oil rich Cabinda enclave north of the River Congo.

MOZAMBIQUE

MACHEL REVIEWS 1982 ACCOMPLISHMENTS, 1983 TASKS

MB301540 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1907 GMT 29 Dec 82

[Speech by President Samora Machel at an official banquet given in honor of members of the government in Maputo on 29 December -- recorded]

[Excerpt] Mozambique men and women, compatriots, dear friends: Within days 1982 will end. At this time of traditional intimacy with relatives and friends we must recall, though briefly, what 1982 has been. As usual, we must analyze our past and reflect on the present so that we can put in proper perspective what we intend to achieve in the year that is about to begin. This is a moment of reflection and examination; it is a moment to analyze our tactical options in the framework of the strategy for our victory in this decade of war on underdevelopment.

The aspirations that guided the Mozambique people in the struggle for national independence -- and which still guide us today -- are common to all peoples of the world.

All people desire freedom and independence, to regain their dignity and personality, to give meaning to their culture and creative talents, and to achieve development and progress and the building of a prosperous society with equality, fraternity, and peace. The obstacles that we have to remove to reach these goals are enormous: illiteracy, ignorance, misery, famine, and deprivation. It is a long way to go with many difficulties. Since there is no victory without sacrifice, the difficulties will be our great school.

In defining the present decade as one in which to achieve victory over underdevelopment, we have imposed upon ourselves a challenge to our ability and intelligence. It is mainly a challenge to the enormous creative potential of our peoples, who in the most difficult and dramatic circumstances of our history have known how to stand up with dignity and pride.

We will begin 1983 with a clear understanding of the economic difficulties that we face. We have defined the fundamental guidelines for the ventures to be carried out in this decade to improve the well-being of our people and achieve prosperity. To achieve these goals, we have realized that it is necessary to involve all Mozambique, patriots, to unleash all our people's energy and to engage every Mozambiqan who is proud of his fatherland and faithful to his conscience as a free and independent citizen. Basically, it means to strengthen and consolidate national unity for the creation of the Mozambique nation. Therefore, in this year about the end we have continued the process previously initiated to unleash the capibilities and initiative of certain sectors of our society which used to be widely divorced from the tasks of national reconstruction of the socialist society that we want to build.

The historic meeting between the party and state leadership and those who had supported the colonial regime was an occasion of major importance for our revolution. In ridding themselves of the weight of the past, and because they have found a fatherland that also belongs to them, they now feel free to take an active part in all the tasks of national reconstruction. It was with emotion that we accepted the patriotic attitude that most of them displayed in volunteering to defend the fatherland and to defend our country's national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

We have also analyzed the political, economic and social reality of our country with former fighters. We spotted some mistakes and obstacles that formed barriers to their full and active participation in national tasks, we recalled our history of liberation and pointed out our revolutionary traditions. At this meeting with participants in our victory, we adopted measures so that they may more actively contribute their experience and knowledge to this phase of our revolution.

A few days ago we met with representatives of the religious denominations present in Mozambique. Our aim was to make them feel that they have also benefitted from national independence and our revolutionary achievements like all Mozambique citizens. We wanted them to feel that they have a role to play in the building of the Mozambique nation and in promoting the prosperity and well-being of all our people. We defined the general guidelines that will govern the relationship between the state and the church, and we decided on the need for the churches of different denominations to identify themselves with the aspirations of the people and to create truly Mozambique churches which are involved in the universal struggle for the well-being of our people.

Since the first national conference of the party, held in preparation for the fourth congress, we have witnessed broad activity by the masses in the discussion of the congress theses. This discussion constitutes a true school for the apprenticeship of all Mozambique people, workers and party members in particular. We have learned how to assess the dimensions of our successes, to criticize and point out in a clear manner the causes of failures, and to denounce irregularities and deficiencies in party and state organs. It has also been an opportunity to debate major national issues.

This discussion has been a school where every citizen is learning how to practice the principle of democratic rule by the masses, to implement with militancy the principle of criticism and self-criticism -- criticism-unity-criticism -- and to adhere to democratic centralism. It has been a school to educate free citizens on civic and ethical discipline.

On the economic and social levels there was a universal increase in agricultural production in 1982. This increase, however, did not correspond with the increase in the people's consumption. Due to difficulties in marketing and distribution, many products did not reach the centers of consumption. This year we started with the first phase of the (Ifloma) project in Manica Province. This is the first major project of the decade to begin production. This project is going to contribute to the fulfillment of some of the country's urgent requirements for wood in bulk form and panels, for housing and for furniture. The project was completed within the time limit set despite being located in an area affected by imperialist aggression.

Regarding industry, the efforts and creative initiative of thousands of workers have resulted in an increase in production in some sectors, despite the lack of raw materals and spare parts and cuts in the supply of fuel and energy.

In the education sector it has been possible to create conditions for the introduction of the national system of education in 1983. This is due to the wide-ranging system and the efforts of many workers of the sector, in particular in the training of teachers.

Despite all these facts, we are all aware that what we have managed to accomplish in 1982 is still far from our aspirations. We have had difficulties in implementing the plans we had approved. There were different reasons. It is true that the drought and the international economic crisis have had a negative impact on our economy. The Mozambique people, however, have gained a clearer realization this year that their difficulties are fundamentally and basically the result of the direct actions of imperialism against our economy through the criminal practices of the armed bandits. In our country, the most profound aspirations of our people for improved well-being, education, health, better food, clothing, and housing have been systematically frustrated by these armed bandits who are recruited, financed, transported, infiltrated, led and equipped by the South African racist regime.

In their daily life, our people know the results of these actions by the enemy: agricultural produce which rots in the fields because trucks cannot move it to factories and centers of consumption; goods for agricultural consumption which do not reach the peasants because the armed bandits burn the goods together with the trucks carrying them; shops plundered and destroyed; students without schools and teachers; patients without hospitals; men, women, the elderly, and children who are tortured, mutilated and barred from moving about freely, from producing and from going about their business; and communal farms, granaries -- which the peasants have built with so much effort, care, and dedication -- destroyed.

Our party and state know that the Mozambique people are involved, with profound hatred, in the liquidation of the armed bandits. Today our people are displaying their readiness to eliminate banditry from our land, showing the same energy and determination they showed during the struggle for national liberation and in the war against the illegal, racist regime in Rhodesia. We are filled with emotion seeing the way the people confront banditry, whether working against, denouncing, or pursuing the bandits.

Today we have a free fatherland. We have the land and the power. Our people will not accept seeing their efforts undermined, their dignity violated, their honor offended. We are a generous people. However, our people are also proud of their history and are implacable when confronted by their enemies. The year 1983 will be a year of generalized war on the armed and unarmed bandits. [applause] In all places let us take up arms: in the countryside and in the city, in the forests and in the villages, in the harbors and in the hospitals, in the market place and in the barracks, in the factories and on the communal farms, on the farms and in the consumers cooperatives, in the state apparatus and in the railways, in the airports and in the schools -- everywhere. Let us dislodge and liquidate the bandits. Let us denounce and neutralize the rumormongers, the troublemakers, the hoarders, those who sustain the armed bandits and armed banditry. [applause] Let us liquidate the rumormongers, the troublemakers and the hoarders who represent an active extension of the armed banditry.

Imperialism has forced us into this situation: to have to strive to improve our well-being and our economy while under arms. Our people love peace. Once again in our history we are forced to wage war in order to gain peace. At the end of this war of aggression, from which we will emerge victorious once again, we will be more ideologically aware, tougher, more disposed to fight, firmer, determined, and vigilant at working posts and in residential areas.

The year 1983 is the year when the fourth congress of the Frelimo party will take place. It will be a congress of combat, of struggle for the building of socialism -- the fundamental stage in the history of our party and our revolution.

To guarantee the success of the fourth congress in 1983, the wide-ranging activities of the masses that have taken place in 1982 will have to be continued and strengthened in 1983. It is the duty of every Mozambican and every patriot to support the success of the Frelimo party congress through active participation in the debate on the theses and through concrete measures designed to improve the people's living standard.

The year 1983 will thus be a year in which we will unleash and utilize all our creative energies. It will be a year in which all our talents, capacity, and imagination will be put forth to better the lives of the people and to defend their achievements. It will be a year in which each one of us -- in our residential area, in our working place and everywhere -- will give new impetus to the political and organizational offensive. The year 1983 must be a year in which national unity, the fervent desire of every Mozambican, is further strengthened. It must be a year to display a patriotic spirit in moving forward in the building of the Mozambique nation. In 1983 we must strengthen the civic, ethical, and patriotic education of every Mozambican -- in the family, in the schools, in the youth organizations, and in cultural and sports activities.

The year 1983 will be a year in which all Mozambique patriots, regardless of their place of origin, race, religion, or past, must implement the concrete tasks in order to improve the people's living standards. The year 1983 will be a year in which every citizen must increase his contribution to the effective functioning of production and consumer cooperatives, councils for production, activity groups and residents commissions, vigilance groups, militia, people's assemblies and people's courts. These are instruments of our people's power which must be properly utilized by the Mozambique people to serve and defend their interests.

Dear compatriots, in the framework of carrying out the foreign policy of our party and state aimed at strengthening friendship between peoples and governments, deepening mutual knowledge and making cooperation an instrument for the consolidation of our relations, a number of visits were made to different countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. At the same time, we were honored by several state visits to our country. In the context of these relationships, which are placed at the highest level of our state, we have reached the goals we had planned.

These were important moments during which we outlined our stand regarding international politics. The fundamental trend in international politics still involves the growing aggravation of tension, the permanent escalation of acts of aggression, blackmail, the use of force in international relations, and the uncontrolled arms race. It is this global offensive by imperialism that has motivated the profound aspirations of the people for peace and progress. Imperialism has acted in ways which demand from all peace-loving peoples acute vigilance, flexibility, and intelligence in order to act correctly in the defense of their interests in view of the complex and dangerous situation in which our world finds itself.

The year 1982 was marked by tragic events which have been the result of imperialism's aggressive policy. We have witnessed this in the Middle East in Lebanon. We have seen it in El Salvador, Nicaragua, Cuba, and in other countries. In Africa, we have witnessed attempts by imperialism to destroy the OAU. We have witnessed an unprecedented arms race, particularly involving neuclear weapons, as well as the militarization and nuclearization of the Indian Ocean.

The strengthening of the unity of the socialist community and its alliance with the the liberation movements and the democratic progressive forces of the whole world has frustrated the goals of imperialism. It is in the just aspirations of our peoples and in their fighting solidarity and fraternal spirit that we will always find the inspiration and the motivation for a new international order free of the specter of war. We are looking toward a new era in which scientific and technological achievements will provide economic and social development in the service of humanity.

SOUTH AFRICA

SOWETO OFFICIAL'S SON HELD FOR ANC DOCUMENTS

MB020821 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 2 Jan 83 p 1

[By Don Maivha and Neil Hooper]

[Excerpt] Mr Karabo Motlana, 22, son of Dr Nthato Motlana, chairman of Soweto's Committee of 10, was detained with four women friends at the Oshoek border on Thursday. He and one of the women, Miss Ninki Malika, are being held by the Security Police. The other three women were freed on Friday.

Brig J.C. "Kalfie" Broodryk of the Security Branch said yesterday that investigations were continuing. No charges had been framed yet and the case would be referred to the attorney general.

The party was returning to Johannesburg from a holiday in Swaziland when the incident occurred.

Brig Broodryk said yesterday that Karabo was arrested after his car was searched at the South African side of the customs post and documents of the banned African National Congress were found in the vehicle. It is understood that the banned ANC documents included certain political letters.

Asked whether the Security Branch had been tipped off to search for the documents, Brig Broodryk said: "No comment."

ZAMBIA

DAILY MAIL ON LUNCHEON FOR CUBA'S ALMEIDA

MB031318 Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 23 Dec 82 p 1

[Text] Cuba will continue to seek world peace despite American threats to exterminate the republic, visiting Cuban Vice President Mr Juan Almeida Bosque declared yesterday.

Speaking at a luncheon held in his honour at Intercontinental Hotel Musi-o-Tunya in Livingstone, Mr Bosque said the United States war threats to eliminate Cuba would not divert the island republic's march towards peace. He said the various American administrations had been hostile to Cuba despite the republic's repeated offers for peace.

He told the luncheon, also attended by MCC, [expansion unknown] Ruben Kananga, and political secretary, Mr Joseph Simuyandi, that Cuba was not a war-monger like America would like the world to believe.

Mr Bosque said his country had not come to Africa to plunder the continent, but to help fight and defeat the forces of colonialism apartheid and imperialism.

"We have not come here to take away any raw materials or treasures. We are also not here to swindle our brothers, but our mission is for peace for all mankind," he said.

Cuba as a revolutionary country would strive to see the development of man, to speak against the oppression of man in Africa.

Mr Bosque said Cuba was in Angola and other parts of the world because of her wish to share knowledge with the progressive countries.

"We are going round Africa not just to be seen as comrades but to learn as well. We have taken teachers to Angola and many parts of the world because we want to try to eliminate social evils in these areas."

Mr Bosque said his delegation was happy to be in a country that had defeated colonialism and reiterated his country's pledge to conquer and dismantle apartheid on the continent.

Earlier, Mr Simuyandi said Zambia admired Cuba's stand on the elimination of imperialism and said the nation would continue to seek solutions on the problems of this part of the world.

Zambia, as a revolutionary country, was concerned with the welfare of man and it would therefore not work in isolation to solving her problems.

And when he arrived, the Cuban leader pledged his country's full support to rid the African Continent of all traces of colonialism, apartheid and imperialism.

Speaking on arrival at Livingstone airport, Mr Bosque said Namibia will be free under SWAPO despite South African-manoeuvres to perpetuate its illegal occupation of the territory. He said all threats and efforts to destabilise Angola and other Frontline states would not stop pregressive countries like Zambia and Cuba from supporting a just cause.

He was welcomed to the tourist capital by Mr Simuyandi, and hundreds of Livingstone residents.

"We pledge our continued support to eliminate forces of imperialism and apartheid on the continent." In Namibia, we shall not rest until the United Nations Resolution 435 is implemented.

The Cuban leader said SWAPO enjoyed the unflinching backing of progressive countries and time was on the side of the struggling masses of Namibia. He said the illegal occupation of the former German colony by the Pretoria regime with the support of Western imperialism would be smashed by the revolutionary will of the people.

Zambia and Cuba shared the same background and they were on the same side in the fight against neo-colonialism and poverty inherited from colonial rule.

Mr Bosque also said the two countries shared identical views on many international issues and were both active members of the Non-Aligned Movement.

He told the welcoming crowd that Cubans were linked to the African Continent because many of their ancestors were from here and were forced to cross oceans by the slave traders.

"Our leader President Fidel Castro loves Africa and that is why we found this long journey important. We will do everything for Africa."

Mr Kamanga had earlier apologised for the late arrival to the welcoming crowd which had awaited in the scorching sun for more than one and a half hours. He said the trip had been delayed in Lusaka because President Kaunda had wanted to introduce the visitors to delegates attending the national congress.

ZIMBABWE

FRENCHMAN AMONG GROUP KILLED BY 'DISSIDENTS'

AB031602 Paris AFP in French 1529 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Harare, 3 Jan (AFP) -- A Frenchman, Phillipe Boiron, aged 42, is among the six people killed on Friday morning by dissidents in southwest Zimbabwe, it was learned from French diplomatic sources in Harare on Monday.

The French consul in Harare went to Bulawayo on Monday to make arrangements for the repatriation of the body of the victim, who had been working in a farm northwest of Bulawayo since 1979.

On Friday, a froup of dissidents killed five whites, including two children, and a black security guard who were traveling in a car between Nyamandhlovu and Bulawayo. The identities of the victims were up until now not revealed. [sentence as received]

No further details on this issue have been released.

OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON USE OF MUTARE-BEIRA PIPELINE

MB301230 Harare THE HERALD in English 23 Dec 82 p 1

[Excerpt] If the Mutare-Beira fuel pipeline had been used fully, shortages of fuel would not have been so acute, a director of Lonrho, Mr Herbert Munangatire, said in Harare yesterday. He told THE HERALD that although the pipeline had been blown up several times by terrorists, it had not been used to its full capacity.

"If the pipeline had been continuously used, the country could have had many months' reserves of fuel.

"Although the pipeline has been blown up a few times, it has been quickly repaired and right now it is still operational," he said.

Asked why the pipeline has not been fully used, Mr Munangatire said he could not answer for the Ministry of Industry and Energy Development.

In a bid to ease the acute shortage of fuel throughout the country, senior government officials and representatives of the country's major oil companies and business organisations are meeting daily to review the situation.

Efforts by THE HERALD to get further information on the daily meetings were met with stiff resistance. Major oil companies supplied the Ministry of Industry and Energy Development with information on the fuel situation, but they were not allowed to talk to the press, a spokesman for one company said yesterday.